

**Village Core Planning Group
Organizational Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2007
5:00 PM**

Attendees: John Hettinger, Marilyn Sanderson, Steve LaFrance, Rick Russack, Paul Kasianchuk, Joel Bourassa, Ted Sutton, Rick Kelley and Susan Chenard
Audience Member: Joe Chenard

Chairman John Hettinger handed out the agenda, detailing needs for Phases 1 and 2 of the Riverfront Trails project. Phase 1 included acquiring easements along the preferred route, and Town Manager Sutton mentioned that he had gotten an easement agreement from the Lodge at Lincoln Station, confirmed and voted favorably on at the homeowners' meeting. Mr. Sutton and Steve LaFrance will check with the Common Man about an easement on Thursday. They're looking to widen the sidewalk similar to the Penstock Trail, then cross the road at the crosswalk near the substation. As DOT property extends 50-60 feet from the centerline of the road, there should be enough room to add the sidewalk. On the western section of the trail, Joel Bourassa said he would check again with DRED and Bill Gegas. We already have the verbal agreement from Ed Brisson on the JE Henry Trail portion.

Phase 2 looks at immediate financial needs and has been broken into 10 sub-parts for the purposes of writing grants. Chairman Hettinger gave out an action list detailing estimated projected costs and potential grant and funding sources. He would like to meet with Mike Peloso to walk the trail after he finishes marking it to get more detailed quotes starting with the section from the Cooper Memorial Bridge to the "Tail Race". Marilyn Sanderson explained that the RTP grant could use the easement donations as in-kind funding, while LCHIP grants need both in-kind donations and cash. Part of the cash portion can be made up of State and Federal grants. In 2009, the transportation department will be getting a funding for a grant that we can then leverage in 2009 for more LCHIP funding. There are some other private foundations and organizations like the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative that we can apply to as well. As Loon and Lincoln are some the NHEC's largest customers, we should have some luck there. Ted Sutton also mentioned that he is on the board of NH Charitable Foundation and funding might be available from that source as well.

Chairman Hettinger related that he had marked the trail from the visitor's center parking lot all the way to the point where the new Loon water pipeline crosses the Pemi with green surveyor's tape. He would be working on the rest of trail soon. There was a comment that the bridge across the "tail race" is no longer there, so a bridge would be needed. Ted Sutton mentioned one could put up a bridge that goes from top-of-bank to top-of-bank, so as to be outside of the wetland bureau's purview, which Steve LaFrance confirmed. Rick Kelley suggested looking at the bridges they have on Loon's cross-country trails – they are rugged and yet simple to build, and hold ATV's fine, so should support foot and wheelchair/bicycle traffic easily. Mr.'s Sutton and LaFrance discussed the implications of the new shoreline protection act and the need to write a letter

requesting an exemption for most of the developed portions of Lincoln along the main and East Branch of the Pemigewasset River.

Paul Kasianchuk next gave a brief presentation of what the trail would look like according to Dennis Ducharme on the property he controls along the river. He and Marilyn discussed that, while Rick Kelley and Chairman Hettinger compared it to the USGS maps and large topographical map. The trail from the Cooper Memorial Bridge to the tail race goes along the river behind Rivergreen, then through the woods and up towards Main Street a bit, to cross the “tail race” near where the old bridge was, and then head back towards the river. Mr. Kasianchuk showed a hard board picture of the whole trail system (created from a satellite image contained in Chairman Hettinger’s project description). However, it does not show the revised trail through DRED property. Rick Kelley said he has someone who can help with exact trail mapping by GPS, in about a month, but Steve LaFrance felt he could coordinate that as well. The RTP (Recreational Trails Program) grant application for this January will be for about 600 feet from the Cooper Memorial Bridge to just beyond the tail race.



Chairman Hettinger next asked the Town Manager about incorporation, who thought it should be modeled after another organization we had in town. Rick Kelley suggested Chairman Hettinger should contact Paul McGoldrick in Littleton, as he was a past president of LIDC and involved in the Main Street Committee. Ted Sutton felt Brien Ward might be another good contact.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 15, 2008, with a reminder to be sent out the week before. The grant application(s) should be sent out by then.

