

This meeting was scheduled as a workshop meeting in order to review items in the Master Plan Update, 2013.

Chairperson Sam Demeritt opened the meeting at 6:17 PM. Other members in attendance were Susan Mooney, Liz Kotowski, Alternate, who was seated for Debra Kimball and Paul Miliotis, Alternate, who was seated for Terry Bonser.

Review of the Master Plan: In anticipation of a workshop meeting with the Planning Board (PB) in May, the Commission (NCC) reviewed the following Goals (IN CAPS), Objectives (**in bold**) and Action Plans (*in italics*) for those items that the PB and NCC have a shared interest.

NATURAL RESOURCE GOAL: PROTECT NOTTINGHAM'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL LANDSCAPE THAT PROVIDE OPEN SPACE, PROTECT AND MANAGE WILDLIFE, AND PRESERVE CLEAN WATER THROUGH WELL-MANAGED GROWTH BY DIRECTING DEVELOPMENT AWAY FROM SENSITIVE RESOURCE AREAS.

**Natural Resource Objective: Protect our water resources including surface waters, watersheds, shorelines, wetlands, floodplains and aquifers.**

*NR 1.3 Adopt a local Shoreland Protection Overlay District that would focus particularly on lower order streams not covered by the state Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act, RSA 483-B. (recommended immediate priority - one to two years)*

*NR 1.7 Develop a town wide Water resource inventory and management plan (Consumptive Water Use Plan (CWUP)) consistent with RSA 4-C:22. (recommended immediate priority)*

*NR 1.8 Amend the Aquifer Conservation District to incorporate all stratified drift aquifers (recommended immediate priority)*

*NR 1.9 Amend and update the current commercial soil-stripping ordinance to create an earth extraction ordinance consistent with RSA 155:E (recommended immediate priority)*

**Natural Resource Objective: Maintain and protect the quality of Nottingham's scenic and dark sky environment.**

*NR 5.2 Amend the Zoning Ordinance through a Skyline District to provide for greater protection of scenic quality from the impact of development (recommended short term, 3 to 5 years)*

*NR 5.3 Amend the Zoning Ordinance through a Steep Slope Ordinance to provide for greater protection of scenic quality from the impact of development (recommended immediate priority)*

*NR 5.4 Review current scenic road designations and determine if additional roads in Nottingham should be classified as scenic roads consistent with RSA 231 (recommended short term)*

*NR 5.5 Amend the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations to include a statement to consider protection of scenic road qualities (recommended immediate priority)*

*NR 5.6 Incorporate into the Zoning Ordinance a permitting process for outdoor lighting to preserve Nottingham's dark sky environment (recommended immediate priority)*

LAND USE GOAL: PRESERVE THE TOWN'S RURAL SMALL TOWN CHARACTER BY PROMOTING PATTERNS OF DEVELOPMENT THAT RESPECT AND REINFORCE THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND THE TRADITIONAL NEW ENGLAND STYLE OF ITS VILLAGES.

**Land Use Objective: Implement a digital information system that will link both spatial and community information into an integrated database.**

*LU 1.2 Consider implementing a GIS that will incorporate and coordinate all community land related data, both numerical and spacial into a common system (recommended ongoing)*

*LU 1.3 Update the Build Out Study upon completing the implementation of a digitized tax mapping system and GIS database. (recommended immediate priority)*

**Land Use Objective: Implement land use regulations that enable growth to be managed in a manner that will maintain Nottingham's rural and village character.**

*LU 2.2 Amend the Zoning ordinance to include a standard for maximum lot disturbance in the Residential Agricultural District. (recommended immediate priority)*

*LU 2.3 Review the Subdivision and Site Plan Review Regulations to be sure they reflect the need to protect rural character and that any development under these provisions minimize environmental impact (recommended immediate priority).*

The above actions (in italics) were determined to be a starting point for discussions between the NCC and PB. Additional actions were reviewed at this workshop meeting and were determined to be either already corrected, not a priority at this time, or not an action that the NCC considers appropriate for Nottingham.

The above list of topics will be available for review by NCC members at the next meeting.

**Other Business:** Edits for the NCC page on the town web site were made. Demeritt will be identified as Chairperson, Debra Kimball will be identified as Vice Chairperson and Susan Mooney as Secretary. Additional edits for the link

for the Four Generals Greenway were suggested by Kotowski and will be incorporated into the script. Kotowski also suggested that an additional link might list NCC activities and volunteer opportunities for residents; Mooney will attend to this.

The Well Water Program is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the Blaisdell Memorial Library. Three presenters are scheduled to present different aspects of the importance of private well water testing. Kotowski will post announcement fliers around the community tomorrow, will contact the on-line Forum and will send copy to Karen Davidson who posts the daily email Blast. Assignments for refreshments at the program were determined.

Miliotis spoke to the importance of wildlife and habitat inventories for easement properties. He recommended that the NCC support an effort to look for species of greatest conservation need in and around black gum swamps and for successfully breeding birds located in high quality habitat so to report data to the Heritage Bureau. In 1998, the NH Ecological Conserve Project was launched to provide data to the Heritage Bureau to monitor species in decline or sensitive to habitat (and climate) changes. Miliotis also stated that while 20% of NH is in conservation land of some type, there does not appear to be a plan in place to protect long-term diversity. Neotropical migrants (birds) such as the Cerulean Warbler are indicator species of the health and biodiversity of high quality habitats. It is also important, he stated, that base line data of aquatic insects which support complex food chains would provide substantial information for the Conserve Project. Other groups, such as UNH Cooperative Extension, the Forest Society, NH Audubon, the Nature Conservatory and local land use boards, use data provided by the Heritage Bureau to qualify and quantify (if data are available) species and habitats under review.

It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Kotowski for Paul Miliotis to investigate biodiversity in conservation lands in Nottingham, notably Pawtuckaway Woods (the recent Fernald Conservation Easement located on Deerfield Road) and Terninko easement properties. All four votes were in favor and the motion passed.

Kristen Lamb provided a contact to Mooney in the hopes of securing a large format map of Nottingham and the surrounding area for display for the public. Emma Tutein, UNH Cooperative Extension, will contact NH Fish and Game to see if such a map from the Updated Wildlife Action Plan (2015) could be made available for Nottingham. Usually such maps are provided only when they are a project partner for a project in the community.

Road Salt Policy: Demeritt was asked to resend the recent email from the DOT that covered recommended road salt policies for state and town roads. Commission members wish to review the study to see if there might be applicability for Nottingham's roads.

It was moved by Mooney and seconded by Miliotis to adjourn. All four (4) votes were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Mooney, Secretary.

These minutes were approved as corrected at the meeting held on April 11, 2016.