

MEETING NOTES

HB 1579 COMMISSION TO STUDY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS

RESEARCH ON ALTERNATIVE STATE PROGRAMS SUBCOMMITTEE

October 19, 2009 * 11:30 AM
Legislative Office Building, Concord, NH

Present:

Jennifer Czysz, NH Office of Energy and Planning
Laura Deming, NH Audubon Association
Representative Sue Gottling, NH House of Representatives
Carolyn Russell, NH Department of Environmental Services
Peter Walker, NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists

I. REVIEW MATRIX

Little remains to be identified on the matrix. Laura emailed to Jen many revisions to the last page of the matrix deleting superfluous programs and adding all remaining hyperlinks and icons. Only the Water Quality row now lacks hyperlinks and icons. Rows with outstanding programs to still be identified and emailed to Jen for inclusion on the matrix include:

- Transportation
- Water, Sewer, and Other Infrastructure

It was reiterated that to limit the programs added to the matrix, all programs listed should be exemplary to each state and should at some level serve to either channel development away from natural resources, promote redevelopment or sustainable development, or protect natural resources.

Row assignments remain as follows:

- Federal and State Environmental Protection Acts – P. Walker
- Coordinated Permitting – C. Russell
- Land Use Planning – J. Czysz
- Smart Growth – J. Czysz
- Redevelopment and Historic Preservation – S. Gottling
- Conservation – C. Killam
- Transportation – P. Walker
- Water, Sewer and Other Infrastructure – S. Gottling
- Water Quality – P. Walker
- Wetlands – L. Demming & C. Killam
- Surface Water – L. Demming & C. Killam
- Ground Water and Aquifers – L. Demming & C. Killam
- Wildlife – L. Demming

Laura mentioned one critical program to her Wildlife Row is the Maine Natural Resource Protection Act, which would actually be most appropriately listed under the Environmental Protection Acts row. Carolyn mentioned that this program is integral to Maine's coordinated permitting program she has been researching. It was suggested that Laura, Pete, and Carolyn

further discuss how to present this seemingly important program given its synergies between multiple focus areas and to best coordinate their work.

II. RESEARCH

Research templates have been completed, or are nearly completed for the following rows:

- Federal and State Environmental Protection Acts
- Coordinated Permitting
- Land Use Planning
- Smart Growth
- Wildlife

For those remaining to be completed, refer back to the meeting notes from September 21 for guidance on the level of detail to be included.

From the research sheets completed and circulated at the meeting, the following were selected as the most pertinent to be presented to the commission:

- Three forms of Environmental Protection Policy Acts – Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont (coordinator: Pete Walker, when: November Commission meeting)
- Smart Growth Land Use - Vermont's Downtowns, Village Centers, New Town Centers and Growth Centers Programs (coordinator: Jen Czysz, when: November Commission meeting)
- Report Back on NH DES Coordinated Permitting Efforts (presenter: Carolyn Russell, when: January Commission meeting)
- Comparative Review of New England's Wetlands Programs (coordinator: Laura Demming with assistance from Pete Walker, when: December Commission meeting)

Further discussion is needed on Wildlife programs. One issue at hand is wildlife habitat fragmentation. Additionally, greater consideration is needed relative to wildlife review in environmental permitting: when and how it happens and its efficiency

III. NEXT STEPS

1. Complete research templates and send all to Jen
2. Continue to send the most exemplary programs to the full subcommittee for consideration at the November meeting
3. Continue to identify those programs that should be presented to the full commission
4. Begin series of presentations to the full Commission

IV. FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Next meeting – November 16, 2009, 2:00 PM at NH Audubon.