



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



VICTORIA F. SHEEHAN
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM CASS, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

DRAFT Minutes
State of New Hampshire
Scenic & Cultural Byways Council
November 9, 2017

NHDOT Materials & Research
Bureau Franconia Notch Conference Room, Room 205

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Name	Representing
Rep. Suzanne Smith	NH House of Representative
Donna Keeley	NH Utilities
Michael Tardiff	Regional Planning Commissions
William Watson	NH Dept. of Transportation
Ken Allen	Forests and Lands
Christina St. Louis	Division of Historic Resources (Division of Natural and Cultural Resources)

ABSENT MEMBERS

Name	Representing
Jayne O'Connor	Outdoor Advertising Assoc. of NH
Amy Bassett	NH Department of Resources & Economic Development
Brenda Clemons	Highway construction industry

PUBLIC

Barbara Robinson, Executive Director North Country Council (NCC); Adam Hlasny (Southern NH Planning Commission); Mike Izard (Lakes Region Planning Commission), Katie Nelson (Central NHRPC); and Stephanie Casella (Strafford Regional Planning Commission).

NHDOT STAFF William Rose and Lucy St. John

Call to Order

Chair Mike Tardiff called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum is present.

Introductions

Members and attendees introduced themselves.

Review & approval of June 14, 2017 draft meeting minutes

Chair Tardiff asked if there were any comments or corrections to the draft minutes. Donna Keeley noted that she is identified in the minutes as attending the meeting, but she was not in attendance.

*Rep. Smith motioned to approve the June 14, 2017 minutes as amended. Donna Keeley seconded the motion. Motion carried **unanimously**.*

NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Program Manager Updates

Lucy St. John reviewed the program manager update handout dated Nov 9, 2017 with the Council (attached). Chair Tardiff suggested that further discussion on the Marketing Committee be discussed later under other business.

De-designation Candidate Process Updates

William Rose provided a brief overview reflecting on the comments included in the June 14, 2017 minutes and previous discussions noting that the four de-designation candidates had made process and are no longer candidates for de-designation: The Mountain Road (NCC), Enfield Shaker Village (UVLSRPC), American Independence Scenic Byway (Rockingham RPC) and Lake Sunapee Scenic & Cultural Byway (UVLSRPC).

The discussion was then turned over to Barbara Robinson of NCC. She distributed and presented several letters to the Council dated November 7, 2017:

1. Letter outlining the NCC course of action to implement the four Corridor Management Plans;
2. Letter regarding the Woodland Heritage Trail;
3. Letter regarding the River Heritage Trail;
4. Letter regarding the Presidential Range Trail;
5. Letter regarding the Moose Path Trail.

She then presented the specific request outlined in the letter regarding the Woodland Heritage Trail, noting that the NCC Scenic Byways Council recommends: De-designate NH 110 from Berlin to West Milan from the Woodland Heritage Trail. The Council discussed that there is no formal de-designation application. All in attendance reviewed the accompanying map showing the area proposed for de-designation.

*Motion by Donna Keeley, seconded by Ken Allen, to de-designate NH 110 from Berlin to West Milan from the Woodland Heritage Trail as presented. Motion carried **unanimously**.*

North Country Scenic Byways Further Discussion

Barbara Robinson then discussed the other letters presented, noting that these letters can be discussed and action taken by the Council at the spring 2018 meeting, when other information is submitted for the various applications.

The Council also discussed and agreed that if there is some overlap or duplication on byway routes, and some segment is proposed to be de-designated, that de-designation will only apply to the section of the byway in that respective byway, not in the other byway which shares that particular segment.

Bill Watson thanked and complimented Barbara Robinson and her staff for their continued involvement and commitment to the Scenic Byway Program and their resolve to work through the process.

Draft Biennial Report of the Council for the years 2016-2017, for review and approval

Lucy St. John noted the draft report was distributed for comments and several of the Regional Planning Commissions offered some comments and corrections which she appreciated. She noted that the editorial comments were reviewed and incorporated as needed. A few additional edits were then discussed at the meeting including: page 15, Appendix C to state Central NHRPC and on page 4 capitalize the N in the word “National”. The Council thanked staff for the report.

Motion by Donna Keeley, seconded by Christina St. Louis to approve the report as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Chair Tardiff noted that a request has been made to the Council regarding the NH Scenic Marketing Committee, as it is currently an unofficial “ad-hoc” committee. Staff explained that there are not any provisions in the Council Rules of Procedure to allow for subcommittees and the Rules would need to be amended to allow subcommittees and the participation of non-members of the Council at the meetings is also not discussed in the Rules.

Adam Hlasny, Southern NHPC explained that there have been two meetings of the marketing committee and there is renew interest and enthusiasm in the Byways Program. Representative Smith inquired why subcommittees are not currently permitted. Ken Allen suggested that the Marketing Committee solicited input from Amy Bassett and Jayne O’Connor on this issue and report back in the spring. Donna Keeley also asked if ad-hoc groups could also interact with the Council. The Council agreed that the topic of subcommittees, ad-hoc groups and amending the Rules of Procedure be included on the spring 2018 agenda for discussion, with staff suggesting some possible language to consider if the Rules are amended.

Adam Hlasny asked about funding for scenic byways brochures and noted that he had heard that Nate Miller (Southern PC) has commented that maybe the funding for the brochures could possibly be addressed through that RPC.

Representative Smith also noted that there are many vacancies on the Council, referring to Appendix C of the draft biennial report. Bill Watson agreed and noted that NHDOT staff will work the Governor's Office regarding the provisions for the Governor to make appointments to the Council.

Adjourn

Motion by Representative Suzanne Smith to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Donna Keeley. The motion carried **unanimously**.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 PM.