



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



VICTORIA F. SHEEHAN
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM CASS, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

**DRAFT Minutes of State of New Hampshire
Scenic & Cultural Byways Council
November 10, 2016**

NHDOT Materials & Research Bureau Franconia Notch Conference Room

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Name	Representing
Christina St. Louis	Division of Historic Resources
Rep. Suzanne Smith	Speaker of the House
Donna Keeley	NH Utilities
Michael Tardiff	Regional planning
Jayne O'Connor	Outdoor Advertising Assoc. of NH
William Watson	NH Dept. of Transportation
Ken Allen	Forests and Lands

ABSENT MEMBERS

Name	Representing
Sen. Jeanie Forrester	Senate President
Brenda Clemons	Highway construction industry
Chris Northrop	NH Office of Energy & Planning
Amy Bassett	NH Department of Resources & Economic Development

PUBLIC:

Carl Martland (NCSBC), Adam Hlasny (SNHPC), Katie Nelson (CNHRPC), Meghan Butts (UVLSRPC)

NHDOT STAFF: William Rose

Ken Allen called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Introductions

Members and attendees introduced themselves. W. Rose introduced all in attendance to the new representative for the NH Division of Historic resources, Christina St. Louis. Rose explained that Mary Kate Ryan had resigned a month prior to the meeting due to her accepting new employment in the State of Washington. All welcomed C. St. Louis, who noted her ongoing involvement with the North Country Scenic Byways Council.

Review & approval of 6/23/2016 meeting minutes

K. Allen asked if there were any comments on the Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2016. There were none.

*Rep. Smith motioned to approve the 6/23/2016 minutes as presented. Mike Tardiff seconded. Motion carried **unanimously**.*

W. Rose noted that there were some members of the Council that indicated a need to leave early. In order to ensure that important business would be transacted while a quorum was available, he asked to change the order of the agenda, to which the Council consented.

Review and adoption of draft NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Wayfinding Sign Guide

W. Rose distributed the draft NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Wayfinding Sign Guide which had been previously handed out for review at the June 2016 meeting where the Council had assented to the plan to comment with an eye towards adoption at this meeting. W. Rose then lead the Council on a page –by-page review of the document and some minor edits were identified by members.

*Jayne O'Connor motioned to adopt the document with the identified edits. Mike Tardiff seconded. The motion carried **unanimously***

NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Program Manager Updates

W. Rose reviewed the program manager update handout with the Council (attached). Significant discussion around the byways designated in northern NH – particularly regarding the 4 byways that recently adopted Corridor Management Plans and the recently re-discovered Mountain Road Scenic Byway (Weeks State Park Road). The Council requested that W. Rose follow-up on these issues in writing with the groups. C. Martland was in attendance and spoke on his interest in creating a new class of byway for those portions of currently designated byways that were identified for de-designation in the adopted CMPs that would be referred to as 'trails'. The Council invited additional information on this approach from the North Country Scenic Byways Council for consideration prior to the next meeting in June.

Discussion regarding non-conforming byways

W. Rose noted that there were several byways that required additional efforts to fully respond to prior notice regarding pending de-designation. Specifically Rose noted that the 4 North Country scenic byways that recently completed Corridor Management Plans: the River Heritage Trail, the White Mountain Trail, the Presidential Range Trail and the Woodland Heritage Trail had not followed up on identified plans to formally designate/de-designate portions of the routes as identified in the plans. Rose also noted that there had not been any productive communications regarding the Mountain Road Scenic Byway – a recently discovered 'forgotten' byway that consists of the Weeks State Park access road which lacks both a Corridor Management Plan as well as a Corridor Advisory committee. After some brief discussion, the Council requested that W. Rose follow-up with the NCSBC and Weeks State Park staff regarding the issues and the preferred corrective actions.

Rules of Procedure review and discussion

Following-up on the June 2016 discussion, W. Rose inquired about any potential changes to the current Rules of Procedure – particularly with a focus on achieving a quorum to conduct business. Council members expressed an interest in moving the annual meeting date from May to June. After some discussion on potential dates, consensus was found for the second Wednesday in June.

*Bill Watson motioned to revise the Rules of Procedure to identify the second Wednesday in June as the Annual Meeting date for the NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council. Donna Keeley seconded. The motion carried **unanimously**.*

Other Business

NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council & Northern Pass

W. Rose followed-up on this item from the June 2016 meeting. He noted that the AG's office had responded to the referenced request for clarification and that the AG's response confirmed his previously stated understanding that designated status as a byway shall not affect the operation, maintenance and expansion of existing lines and facilities, nor be construed to require burial of lines or facilities, and that the NHSBC has no role regarding comments on this project as a result.

Byway Updates

K. Nelson updated the Council on recent updates regarding the Currier & Ives Scenic Byway. Nelson noted that the byway was currently working to designate additional routes as part of a C&I extension effort to better incorporate Warner's Main Street into the byway. Nelson also noted the third annual Currier & Ives Scenic Byway Open House.

M. Butts updated the Council on the ongoing efforts of the Enfield Shaker Village Scenic Byway to formalize a Corridor Advisory Committee and a Corridor Management Plan. She also noted the efforts of the Lakes Sunapee Scenic Byway to reconstitute the Corridor Advisory Committee and consider some updates to the existing Corridor Management Plan.

J. O'Connor noted that she would be attending the National Scenic Byways Foundation conference in the spring and would share details of the event with the Council members at the June meeting.

Transition of the NH Scenic & Cultural Byways program to DRED

W. Rose noted that dialogue between the two agencies (NHDOT & DRED) continue – with no progress to report at present.

Adjourn

*Donna Keeley motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Rep. Smith. The motion carried **unanimously** and the meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.*