



VICTORIA F. SHEEHAN  
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM CASS, P.E.  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

**DRAFT Minutes of State of New Hampshire  
Scenic & Cultural Byways Council**

**June 23, 2016**

**NHDOT Bureau of Aeronautics Conference Room**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mary Kate Ryan	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

**ABSENT MEMBERS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Sen. Jeanie Forrester	Senate President
Brenda Clemons	Highway construction industry
Chris Northrop	NH Office of Energy & Planning
Ken Allen	Forests and Lands
Amy Bassett	NH Department of Resources & Economic Development

**PUBLIC:**

Colin Lentz (SRPC), Katie Nelson (CNHRPC)

**NHDOT STAFF:** William Rose

*Bill Watson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.*

**Review & approval of 11/12/2015 meeting minutes**

After introductions from Council Members and visitors, Bill asked if there were any comments on the Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2015. There were none.

*Mike Tardiff motioned to approve the 11/12/2015 minutes as presented. Mary Kate Ryan seconded. Motion carried **unanimously**.*

### **NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Program Manager Updates**

William reviewed the program manager update handout with the Council (attached). William also reviewed the draft *New Hampshire Scenic & Cultural Byways Wayfinding Sign Guide*. Members discussed the desire to review the draft and provide comments to William prior to the November meeting. The Council concurred with William's stated intention to adopt the draft document at the November meeting.

### **Rules of Procedure review and discussion**

Given the recent issues related to convening a quorum to conduct business, along with the efforts to conduct regular 'housekeeping' efforts related to the ongoing activities of the NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council, William distributed the current *Rules of Procedure* for the NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council. The members agreed to review the current Rules with an eye towards revision and possible re-adoption at the November meeting of the Council.

### **Nomination & Election of officers for 2016**

After some brief discussion amongst the members regarding possible interest from membership for Council offices:

*J. O'Connor motioned to nominate the current slate of officers to continue through 2016. Rep. Smith seconded. The motion carried **unanimously**.*

*Chair: Ken Allen*

*Vice Chair: Bill Watson*

### **Request to change name of Branch River Valley Trail Scenic Byway**

William reminded members of the formal request by the Branch River Valley Trail Scenic Byway Council to drop 'trail' from the title of the byway presented to the Council at the November 2015 meeting. That item was not acted upon at the meeting as it wasn't identified as an action item for that agenda.

*Mary Kate Ryan motioned to formally rename the Branch River Valley Trail Scenic Byway the Branch River Valley Scenic Byway per the request of the Corridor Advisory Council. Donna Keeley seconded. The motion carried **unanimously**.*

### **Other business**

Katie Nelson from the CNHRPC provided an update on the activities of the Currier & Ives Scenic Byway Council. Nelson noted that Kearsarge Magazine had recently published a 7 page article highlighting the byway that had been well received by the communities and businesses along the byway.

Nelson also noted that the Currier & Ives group has been focused on member recruitment and retention. Nelson also highlighted plans by the Currier & Ives Byway Council to possibly propose expansion of the designated byway further into the Town of Warner, focusing on connecting to the village and Rollins State Park.

Colin Lentz from the SRPC detailed recent going-on related to the Mills Scenic Byway. Lentz noted that the Mills Scenic Byway Council had been working with the City of Dover to include Dover in the designated byway. Lentz noted that based on the positive discussion to date, he was hopeful that the group would bring forward a formal request to designate Dover portions of the byway for the November 2016 NHSCBC meeting.

Jayne O'Connor questioned the role of the state and local scenic byways councils in regards to the Northern Pass utility project. William responded and noted that the individual byway groups around the state were independent, and that the issue has not been raised as an item for the NHSCBC given staff interpretation of the Scenic Byways enabling legislation. William noted:

**238:22 Designation.**

II. Designation of a state or local road or highway as a scenic and cultural byway under the provisions of this subdivision, and any general or special management criteria applicable thereto, shall not affect the operation, maintenance and expansion of existing public utility lines and facilities, or be construed to require any public utility to install any of its lines or facilities underground.

William noted that this was understood to mean 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. He noted that the question of interpretation had been posed to the NH Attorney General for concurrence, and he would report back to the Council at the November meeting on the topic.

**Adjourn**

*Mike Tardiff motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mary Kate Ryan. The motion carried **unanimously** and the meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.*