

# The Granite State

P L A N N E R



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Fall 2000

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## President's Message

Well, you've spoken, and we have listened. The Executive Committee has been asked to revisit the format of the last few NHPA spring conferences. As many of you know, these used to be a day-and-a-half event, very often held at Loon Mountain. We polled the membership in last year's survey regarding these conferences, and most of the respondents felt that an overnight commitment was just too much.

Since that survey, we have had two conferences under the one-day-only format. Now we are hearing that some people really miss the opportunity to network with other planners. And, since updating the NHPA Directory, it has become obvious that there are quite a few new planners in the state, who might welcome an opportunity to get to know their colleagues. It has been suggested that perhaps it was the skiing at Loon Mountain that was not enough of an incentive to keep people overnight! I understand that (before my time) it was golf at Waterville Valley.

Now that it is time to start thinking about next year's conference, the Committee is willing to organize an overnight conference, at a location that offers some variety in terms of "after-work" recreation. If you have any suggestions for venue, please let us know. (The Executive Committee meets the first Friday of every month at the Local Government Center in Concord.)

Thank you all for your continued interest in NHPA.

Carol Ogilvie

*Carol Ogilvie*  
President, NHPA

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# Of Plans and Planners

by *Cindy Hayden, City of Portsmouth*  
*Community Development Director*

There have been many comings and goings in the planning world. This summer, Duane Hyde left his position as Durham's Director of Planning and Community Development to join the Nature Conservancy as Land Protection Specialist at their Great Bay satellite office. Charles Watson is the new planner for the Town of Hooksett. The Nashua Regional Planning Commission reports two new additions to their staff: Koren Melfi, Assistant Planner and Mark Archambault, Senior Planner. Eric G. Twarog has joined the Town of Windham as their Assistant Planner. Dick Mosher, Gilmanton's Planning Administrator, has retired and Lynne Brunell, who served as Executive Assistant to the Planning Board for the last four years, has taken over the helm. After many years of planning for small NH communities, Karen Cullen has moved to Hilton Head, South Carolina where she works in the Long Range Division of the town's planning department. Ben Frost, formerly of Hollis, will be the new executive director of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC. Jennifer Kimball began in September as Hampton's town planner, and David Schwerd became Goffstown's Planning and Economic Development Coordinator (see **planner profiles on page 5**).

In August, Walter Warren left his position as Director of Business Services at the Greater Nashua Center for Economic Development to become the Corporate Communications Director for Spike Broadband Systems, Inc. The Nashua-based Spike company is a leading provider of fixed wireless broadband delivery systems (fiber in the sky), essentially an alternative to "wired" telecommunications infrastructure.

Congratulations are also due (for a much different reason) to Jamie Steffen, and wife Karla Newport, who are happy to announce the June arrival of their first child (and potential new planner), Kaleb Steffen.

Bow Planning and Economic Development Director Bill Klubben wins the prize for "most to report" in this edition of *Of Plans and Planners*. Bill has been joined by new Planning Assistant Bryan Westover who will lend Bill a professional hand by providing support to the Planning Board and Business Development Commission, managing records, and responding to public inquiries.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following New Hampshire NNECAPA members who passed the 2000 American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) exam:

- Richard Dymont
- Sheldon David Laidman
- Ralph Gordon Leedy
- Ross Moldoff
- Shane O'Keefe
- Mohammed Rasheduzzaman
- Richard Sawyer



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### *Of Plans and Planners Continued*

Bill also reports that the Economic Development Plan and Implementation Strategy for the town was completed this Spring by RKG. In March, the town of Bow appropriated \$300,000 to begin implementation of plan recommendations. Other implementation strategies currently underway include preparation of the performance zoning district by the Central NH Regional Planning Commission; and the solicitation of proposals to complete the water and wastewater plan for Bow's business development area (\$100,000). The next implementation step is the development of a feasibility study for a new I-93 interchange (\$175,000).

In addition, Bill is in the process of issuing an RFP to digitize 46 tax map sheets and create a digital composite. Last month, Bow's Planning Board invited other boards and department heads as well as the public, to its annual zoning amendment meeting to obtain input on potential zoning amendments. With the assistance of consultant Bruce Mayberry, the town is also close to finalizing an impact fee ordinance and fee calculation methodology for school impacts. Bow approved its first residential condominium projects in town this summer, with one adding 30 units of elderly single family detached housing and the other proposing to construct 42 townhouses. Finally, just to liven things up, the Bow Planning and Economic Development office and the Building and Assessing office moved into new shared space last month. Bill says that other than that, they are pretty much sitting around looking for something to do.

The NHPA Newsletter is published in the Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. Contact the Newsletter Editor for copy deadline. The primary purpose of the newsletter is to foster the exchange of information between planners throughout the Granite State. Anyone wishing to submit an article, editorial, request for information, or anything else of interest to planners is encouraged to do so by contacting the Newsletter Editor. The NHPA welcomes paid business advertising. Rates are \$40 per issue and \$100 per year (four issues) for a business card ad. NHPA membership information can be obtained from the treasurer.

## NHPA Finally On-Line!

By Tim Thompson, Public Information Officer

I would like to cordially invite all of you to visit the new internet home of the NH Planners Association. As a result of our affiliation with the NH Municipal Association's Enhanced Member Services program, the NHPA Executive Committee has established a preliminary website that will soon be host to a wide variety of information for use by NH's planning community.

Please take a few moments to look at the "preliminary" NHPA Website. It's located at [http://www.nhmunicipal.org/NH%20Planners%20Association/nhpa\\_index.html](http://www.nhmunicipal.org/NH%20Planners%20Association/nhpa_index.html) (or it can be reached by going to the "Professional Organizations" section of the main NHMA website). The site is in its infancy right now, as I try to gauge what type of information needs to be available there. Some preliminary feedback has included the desire for:

- NH Job Announcements, listing available positions in planning and related professionals.
- How to Join NHPA, with information about what the organization does and, obviously, how to join NHPA.
- Upcoming Events, highlighting future workshops and conferences.
- Strategic Plan Implementation Updates.

Please stop by and have a look, and let me know what direction you would like the website to take. What types of information would you find useful? What kinds of information should not be made available on-line? Should the executive committee look to move to a dedicated server and domain name (ie., [www.nhplanners.org](http://www.nhplanners.org))? I am depending on the membership to provide me with some guidance. I would like to make the NHPA website one of your essential bookmarks in your web browsers! Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at [tthompson@londonderry.org](mailto:tthompson@londonderry.org), or by phone at 432-1100, Extension 103. I look forward to hearing from you!

## There Is Still Time . . .

### NHPA Executive Committee Seeks Award Nominations

Do you have a favorite project or plan you want everyone to know about? How about an outstanding planning professional? The Executive Committee is still accepting award nominations for the 2000 NHPA Annual Planning Awards. The eligibility criteria for each category are as follows:

**President's Medal for Outstanding Achievement by a Professional Planner** — To an individual for a sustained contribution to the profession through distinguished practice, teaching or writing. This person must make his/her living in the practice of planning.

**Project of the Year** — For a project, program or tool that is a significant advantage to the cause of planning. This category emphasizes results and plan implementation.

**Plan of the Year** — To a written plan that is a significant advancement to the science and art of planning.

If you know of any individuals, projects or plans worthy of consideration and would like more information about submitting a nomination, please contact Tim Thompson as soon as possible at:

Tim Thompson  
NHPA Public Information Officer  
50 Nashua Road, Suite 100  
Londonderry, NH 03053  
603/432-1100  
E-mail to [tjthompson@usa.net](mailto:tjthompson@usa.net)

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## Mark Your Calendar for the NHPA Annual Meeting

The 2000 annual meeting of the NH Planners Association will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2000, at 2:45 pm in Expo 3 at The Center of New Hampshire (700 Elm Street, Manchester) as part of the NHMA annual conference. The meeting will take place during the break between sessions (2:45 pm - 3:30 pm) immediately following the NHPA conference session (also to be held in Expo 3). The Executive Committee encourages your participation and looks forward to seeing you there! The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Welcome/Call to Order
- Election Results\*
- Proposed By-Law Changes

- NHPA Planning Awards Announcement
- 30<sup>th</sup> NHPA Anniversary Celebration\*\*
- Other Business

\* You will be receiving a ballot with the slate of officers along with some proposed by-law changes.

\*\* 2000 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the association in 1970. We plan to recognize this momentous event (!) by having some past NHPA presidents and others offer a few remarks.

It is not necessary to register for the NHMA Annual Conference to attend the NHPA Annual Meeting. However, if you would like to attend the NHMA annual conference, see page 6 .

# NNECAPA Fall Conference Highlights Burlington, Vermont

by Ross Moldoff, Planning Director, Town of Salem



**Editor's Note:** For those who were not able to attend the NNECAPA conference last month, Salem Planning Director Ross Moldoff, shares the following highlights on several conference sessions he attended.

As part of a session titled *Making Modern Development Fit Northern New England Communities*, a case study was presented on Williston's Taft Corners area which is considered "ground zero" for the sprawl debate in Vermont. Workshop presenter Michael Munson, Planning Director for the Town of Williston, Vermont explained how Taft Corners came to be. In short, Williston wanted a non-residential tax base. Consequently, the town created a commercial zone near Interstate 89 at the intersection of two major state highways and, in the late 1980s extended town water and sewer to the site. Unfortunately, there was no accompanying vision of how the area would, or should, develop. In 1995, a new town plan and zoning ordinance were adopted, and design review regulations were added this year. Each quadrant of the area now has a different conceptual framework, with big box retail in one quadrant, conventional retail in another and grid streets and housing in another.

Michael presented several lessons learned from his experience in Williston:

1. We must try to be ahead of the curve. It's hard to overcome established patterns and retrofit an area.
2. It takes time to see results.
3. We don't have the luxury of a clean slate.

## Upcoming Planning Seminars

### UNH Continuing Education

**Land Use Law for Non-Lawyers: Unraveling the Complex**  
Manchester, Course Ref. #15026, 6 CEUs, \$90 (lunch included)  
Thursday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**Instructor:** Michael Donovan, J.D., former City Planner, City Manager, and Civil Engineer

**Controlling Strip Development**  
Portsmouth, Course Ref. #15081, 6 CEUs, \$90 (lunch included)  
Thursday, December 7, 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**Instructor:** Ross Moldoff, Salem, NH Planning Director

**For More Information:**  
UNH Continuing Education  
603/862-2015 • 800/313-LEARN  
[www.learn.unh.edu](http://www.learn.unh.edu)

4. Developers want market reality, but planners must get them to add community reality.
5. It's hard to deal with parking. Structural parking is needed, but towns must help due to financial constraints.
6. Don't give up!

Another conference session, titled *Landscape Design Review*, provided planners with insights on how to use the design review process to help their communities be green and stay green. Workshop presenter David Bloniaz from the USDA Forest Service believes that successful design review requires envisioning that the goal of the built environment is to create successful landscapes. In answering the question — *What makes successful landscapes?* — he said landscapes must:

- Create balance between built and green infrastructure.
- Provide ecological, economic and social benefits.
- Ensure sustainability (will it last?)
- Provide aesthetic vision, context and vernacular appreciation.
- Offer fiscal viability.
- Preserve, protect and enhance the quality of the community.

In addition, he offered a number of tools for design review, including:

- Is there function/design intent, rhythm and pattern, enclosure and separation, and identity of place?
- Is the design suitable and sustainable?
- Are planting materials of an appropriate size, shape and species?

With regard to planting material, he said it is important to use standards and specifications, start with the best quality stock, obtain a two-year guarantee on plantings, make sure that structural soil is in place in small planting islands, and to remember the importance of handling, storage, watering and maintenance. One of the most important things he sees with regard to ensuring that plant materials flourish is to make certain that a \$200 tree is not planted in a \$5 hole; since roots spread in the top 18 inches of soil, holes need to be wider, not deeper. David urged planners to visit the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry website at [www.umass.edu/urbantree](http://www.umass.edu/urbantree) for additional information.



# Planner Profiles

**Jennifer Kimball, Town of Hampton**

**David Schwerd, Town of Goffstown**

*by Cindy Hayden, Community Development Director, City of Portsmouth*

**Jennifer Kimball**, Hampton's new Town Planner journeyed to our fair state all the way from the great State of Washington. Jennifer's most recent position was in King County's Department of Development and Environmental Services (DES) where she worked for four years. Her main role for DES was in the area of site review in the County's unincorporated areas, with a particular emphasis on stormwater and road standards. In this capacity, she often served as project manager since part of her role was to coordinate reviews with other King County DES technical and professional staff (there are a mere 299 of them, county government being what it is in other parts of the world). As her tenure with King County DES progressed, her role also expanded to include code writing and many other planning functions.

Jennifer says she and her husband have wanted to move to the East Coast for quite a while. Opportunity knocked when her husband had an excellent job opportunity here that would allow them to be near his family who lives in Stratham.

Jennifer, a native of Michigan, received her Bachelors degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering from the University of Michigan. She then went on to the University of Washington in Seattle to obtain her master's in Environmental Engineering.

She began her post in Hampton on September 6th. Jennifer has the mixed blessing of being the town's first official full-time planner. In prior years, the town relied on the Rockingham Planning Commission to provide circuit rider services.

Her first priority, she says, is to serve as staff to the Planning Board for project review and to get up to speed on the town's site plan review regulations and other codes. Hampton is also in the process of preparing a master plan for the beach as well as working on floodplain issues.

Jennifer really enjoys working for government, helping communities, and ensuring that private development turns out the way it should. In addition to continuing to provide accurate and fair plan review, she wants to organize the town's planning and development files, and update their subdivision and site plan review regulations.

**David Schwerd**, Goffstown's Planning and Economic Development Coordinator, joined the town on May 1st of this year. He has just returned from the Burlington NNECAPA conference, where he got to meet his predecessor, Andre Garron, now Londonderry's Planning and Economic Development Director.

David comes to New Hampshire from the City of Wilmington Delaware. In Wilmington, his primary focus was in the area of economic development for large projects. He had his sights set on relocating to either Vermont, Maine or New Hampshire. He not only likes the Goffstown area's rural setting and the people he met, but he loves the cold weather. He describes southern Delaware, where he grew up, as farms, country and the beach (who knew?).

He received his undergraduate degree in Business Economics from East Tennessee State and earned a Master's degree from the University of Delaware's Urban Affairs and Public Policy Program. He describes the University of Delaware's graduate program as an outstanding one that provides excellent learning opportunities.

Goffstown is in the middle of doing a GIS needs assessment and David is just the person for this task; in Wilmington he was instrumental in jump starting the implementation of the City's GIS program after that city's GIS needs assessment had spent years lying dormant and gathering dust. David's computer expertise also extends to web page development; he is currently re-designing the town's web page himself.

When David is not busy making technological innovations, he will be focussed on re-writing the town's zoning ordinance, re-organizing the file system, getting the town's 5 1/2-mile rails to trails project approved, and preparing the school impact fee ordinance that will go to town meeting this spring.

David lives right in the heart of Goffstown village with his wife Megan and their dog Amy, a Spaniel mix who he describes as weighing pounds, standing a foot and a half tall, and being wide. He loves living in the village and being within walking distance of the village store and the town offices; he hikes the 300 feet from home to office each day.

# 2000 NHMA CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

November 15-17 • Center of NH/Holiday Inn • Manchester

You must be a municipal official or a member of an NHMA Affiliate Group to attend this conference.

## REGISTRATION FEES

I will be attending the conference. (Please check appropriate boxes)

- All three days \$70.00 **OR**  Wednesday, November 15 \$40.00  
 Thursday, November 16 \$40.00  
 Friday, November 17 \$20.00

TOTAL REGISTRATION \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MEAL REQUESTS

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** The following meal functions are **sponsored** and therefore **at no charge** for conference Attendees. **BUT**, if you want any of the meals listed you must check them off. If you wish to have a guest attend, please complete the Spouse/Guest portion and enclose the appropriate amount.

**Ticket(s) not collected at the meal will be invoiced to the individual(s) registering.**

Please reserve the following meal tickets as part of my registration fee:

### Wednesday, November 15, 2000

- Opening Breakfast   
Volunteer Awards Lunch  **All desired meals must be indicated in order to receive a ticket for that event.**

### Thursday, November 16, 2000

- Affiliates' Day Breakfast   
Town Report Awards Luncheon   
2000 Banquet/Entertainment

Please reserve the following number of meal tickets for my Spouse/Guest.

### Wednesday, November 15, 2000

- Opening General Session Breakfast \$ 9.25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Report Awards Luncheon \$14.00 \_\_\_\_\_

### Thursday, November 16, 2000

- Affiliates' Day Breakfast \$ 9.25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Volunteer Awards Luncheon \$14.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
1999 Banquet/Entertainment \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any special dietary requirements, please check this box

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of which Affiliate Group \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Day Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**For NHMA Use Only**

TOTAL ENCLOSED FOR SPOUSE/GUEST MEAL(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NO MONEY WILL BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR. PRE-REGISTRATION STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.**  
**REFUNDS** will be made in full **ONLY** if cancellation is made before November 1, 2000. **Mail this form with your payment (made payable to NHMA) to:** New Hampshire Municipal Association, Attn: Janice Seaver, PO Box 617, Concord, NH 03302-0617.

# Job Opportunities

## Program Director

Lancaster Main Street Program

The Lancaster Main Street Program is seeking a program director to coordinate downtown revitalization activities. The position requires a dynamic, outgoing team player with the proven ability to multi-task, and work in an independent environment with both the public and private sectors. Candidates must be capable of directing diverse teams of people and have the ability, foresight and creativity to challenge existing strategies. The position of director will require you to organize, supervise and motivate others in downtown promotions, special events and educational seminars. Send your resume to: The Lancaster Main Street Program, PO Box 123, Lancaster, NH 03584, 603/788-2476, or E-mail to [lancmainst@conriver.net](mailto:lancmainst@conriver.net).

## Planner

City of Portsmouth

The City of Portsmouth seeks a person to perform administrative and planning functions for the Planning Department. Requires examining, analyzing and evaluating applications for land use, environmental impacts, and determining compliance with state/federal laws and ordinances. BS in EP, ES, geography or related field. Two years experience in the field or equivalent combination of education and experience. AUTOCAD experience required. Must possess a valid driver's license. Salary: \$37,157 to \$45,165.00. Send resumes to: Human Resources, 1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801. Applicants being considered for positions must complete pre-employment screening to include drug test, physical and background check. EOE.

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## Conference Announcement

### EPA Phase II Stormwater Workshop and Trade Show

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently expanded its stormwater pollution control requirements to include smaller communities, small construction projects, and all municipal vehicle maintenance operations. To help get the word out on the new requirements and the tools, techniques and technologies that can assist with meeting them, the EPA, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the state of Massachusetts will host two, day-long workshops/tradeshows this fall. The workshops will feature an overview of the new requirements, information on the state role in nonpoint source pollution control, and job-specific break-out sessions. The intent is to provide municipal officials, engineers and private construction firms with the information they need to begin planning and budgeting to meet the March 2003 permit application deadline.

The expanded universe of parties and activities that must control stormwater runoff now include:

- municipalities in "urbanized areas" with populations under 10,000 that have separate storm sewer systems;

- all public and private construction activity that disturbs at least one acre of soil; and
- all municipalities' "industrial" operations, including vehicle maintenance facilities (DPW garages), wastewater treatment plants, etc.

The conference will also provide information on how to apply for "no exposure" exclusions from Phase II permit requirements as well as how to assess facilities with regard to what changes may be necessary. Exhibits of stormwater and erosion control products and services will be open to conference attendees all day.

**November 30, 2000**  
Manchester, NH

**December 4, 2000**  
Sturbridge, MA

**Registration Fee:** \$30.00 (*includes continental breakfast & lunch*)  
**Conference Information:** Abby Swaine, EPA, 617/918-1841  
**Exhibitor Information:** Carol Hansen NRCS, 508/295-1481 (Ext. 118)