



Upper Valley Lake Sunapee
Regional Planning Commission

UVLSRPC Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 8, 2014
UVLSRPC Offices, Lebanon, NH
Approved February 12, 2014

Committee Members Present:

Thain Allan, Grantham
Katherine Connolly, Hanover
Jeff Kessler, Newport
Larry LeClair, Lebanon

Others:

Christine Frost, staff
Nate Miller, staff

- Chair Larry LeClair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- **Jeff Kessler moved to approve the minutes of December 4, 2013. Thain Allan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**
- Christine Frost reviewed the findings of a recent report developed by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) and the Institute for Economic Advancement (IEA) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock for the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions. The researchers interviewed more than 30 public and private sector leaders around New Hampshire about the effectiveness of Regional Planning Commissions.
 - Katherine Connolly noted that, in reading the report, the nine regional planning commissions in New Hampshire seem disparate, with few unifying elements.
 - Jeff Kessler advised that RPCs should be conduits of information about controversial issues, rather than taking positions.
 - Thain Allan advised that there is a danger for RPCs to focus too much on statewide outreach at the cost of high quality work products for the municipalities they serve.
 - Jeff Kessler noted that UVLSRPC has developed unique expertise in GIS, transportation, and other specialties. These unique services can greatly benefit the region's municipalities and should be better marketed.
- Christine Frost noted that with the NADO/IEA report's findings, as well as the coming end of some of the Commission's larger, multi-year projects, the Commission should consider budgeting for a strategic planning process in FY 2015. This would allow for a comprehensive review of the opportunities and challenges facing the UVLSRPC.

- Executive Committee members concurred with this recommendation, and advised that the Strategic Plan should quantify the direct benefits the Commission provides to both the state and local governments.
- Christine Frost reminded the Executive Committee that lease negotiations for the 10 Water Street office space will begin this spring. The Joint Loss Management Committee has expressed safety concerns about the front door to the building, and this will be a topic in the negotiations.
- **Katherine Connolly moved to enter a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Jeff Kessler seconded and the motion passed unanimously at 6:18 p.m.**
- **Katherine Connolly moved to exit the non-public session at 6:25 p.m. Jeff Kessler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

Jeff Kessler moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. Katherine Connolly seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Nathan Miller