

**Minutes
Hampden Town Council
Community Services Committee
February 12, 2008 @ 6:30pm**

The meeting of the Hampden Town Council Community Services Committee was called to order at 6:35 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at the Hampden Municipal Building by Chairperson Shannon Cox.

Bob Osborne, Town Planner
Gretchen Heldmann, GIS/IT Specialist
Chris Shrum, EMDC
Nancy Chaiyabhat
John Mahoney
Don Katnik, Conservation Commission
Councilor Tom Brann
Councilor Shannon Cox
Councilor Matt Arnett
Gene Weldon

1. Introductions of new people.

No introductions necessary.

2. Business

A. Minutes Acceptance

It was brought up that minutes have not been formally accepted for quite some time, and there was question as to whether the committee had rules about accepting minutes either formally or informally and it was agreed that we should formally accept the minutes at the next meeting so as to have proper record of the meetings.

B. Mission Statement

The mission statement may need to be revisited in light of new direction of the committee, so we will review it at the next meeting.

C. D. Dix

It was agreed that the committee should ask the Council to consider forming a Friends of Dorothea Dix Park, not as a Council Committee but as a community group that adopts the park and would then begin to operate on its own.

D. Calendar of Events

The following days were suggested for the calendar:

- Stream Clean-up (May)
- Arbor Day (April 25) - preceding or following weekend
- Earth Day (April 22) - preceding or following weekend
- Children's Day (August)
- American Folk Fest (end of August)
- Welcome to Hampden Day (October)
- Souadabscook Canoe Race (last week March) - open Papermill Rd. park and have hot cocoa & cheer people on?

E. Misc Other

A letter of support was sent to the Bangor Area Open Space planning group. Susan Lessard (Town Manager) and Gayle Zydlewski (member of this committee) were designated a while back as the official reps on the Steering Committee. They will soon form the Stakeholder Group and Technical Subcommittees.

Nancy suggested it would be really nice, if after we wrap up comp plan stuff, if we could start inviting in guest speakers to cover various issues in a public forum type of format. It would really help educate citizens on the issues, and it would be great if they could be taped/televised.

Gretchen was invited to the Communications Committee budget planning session with Councilors Arnett and Cushing as well as the Town Manager, Susan Lessard. She suggested they look into purchasing lapel pin mics and a couple of stick mics for the audience in the event of town forum type of meetings where there may be audience Q&A sessions. She also suggested a few other purchases. One suggestion was to purchase a conference call phone.

3. Comp Plan Discussion

Discussion tonight was about Marine Resources and Historic Resources.

Marine Resources:

- Water quality monitoring: who, when where? DEP? GIS layer available?
- other local/regional planning groups: Cove Brook Watershed Coalition, Lower Penobscot Watershed Coalition, Hampden Citizen's Coalition (land fill monitoring).
- ordinance states a need for a harbormaster, which we currently really do not have. If we are going to allow alewives fishing, we would need a fish warden. With the ever-increasing and expanding use of the marina, we need a harbormaster.
- ordinance also calls for a Harbor Oversight Board, but we have no board.
- Memo indicates a need for more dredging in #11. It was noted that this is merely a band-aid fix. Public education efforts are once again needed to try to prevent siltation from occurring in the first place.
- #12 asks about improving access to water resources. The Town needs a formal plan in order to approach landowners about need for easement for access. Issues/barriers: people leaving trail & wandering into private property too close to residences, certain

rec activities are unwanted. It was agreed upon that the trail network within town needs serious attention, whether it be more trails in general or separate trails for separate uses.

- #13 indicates that there are limited public viewsheds, due in part to the landscape. It is also due to state Shoreland Zoning and harvest regulations.

Historic:

1) need for larger "historic" district- maybe just architectural standards, "early New England visual architectural district." Zone would not be very strict, just enough to preserve the visual appeal of older buildings so there was a larger village section in early New England style.

2) is there a way to take over the care of very old gravesites that have fallen into disrepair or neglect of some sort?

3) all developments should be required to do an historical assessment of resources on the lot, not just developments of a certain size level.

4) housing TIF of some sort for older-house revitalization/remodel.

5) there is a five-volume assessment of historic properties in Hampden, of which a few are available online.

The next meeting is *March 4th* at 6:30pm for ComServ and 7pm for Comp Plan discussion.

4. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned around 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Heldmann
GIS/IT Specialist