

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

103 Main Street, Suite #3
 Meredith, NH 03253
 tel (603) 279-8171
 fax (603) 279-0200
 www.lakesrpc.org



MINUTES
LRPC COMMISSION MEETING
 Runnells Hall
 Chocorua Village, Tamworth, NH
 November 17, 2008

PRESIDING: Robert Snelling, Chairman **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 PM

QUORUM: Yes **COMMUNITIES PRESENT:** 17

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Maggie LaBerge, Alexandria
 John Cotton, Andover
 David Kerr, Barnstead
 Steve Favorite, Bristol
 Anne Cunningham, Freedom
 Richard Wait, Gilford
 Stan Bean, Gilmanton
 Robert Snelling, Holderness
 Bruce Whitmore, Holderness
 Warren Hutchins, Laconia
 William Bayard, Meredith
 Herbert Vadney, Meredith
 Barbara Perry, Moultonborough
 Herb Farnham, Moultonborough
 Wayne Crowley, Northfield
 Douglas Read, Northfield
 Patricia Jones, Ossipee
 Ralph Carter, Sanbornton
 Robert Butcher, Sandwich
 Herb Cooper, Tamworth
 Tom Peters, Tamworth
 Chuck Storm, Wolfeboro

OTHERS PRESENT: Kimon Koulet, Marie Gelinis, Mark Weissflog, Eric Steltzer, and other interested parties (see attached).

1 Welcome and Introduction

Chairman Robert Snelling called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m., welcomed all members and asked everyone to introduce themselves. He asked for a

motion for those present to constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business, the motion was unanimously approved. *M/S/P Hutchins/Waite*

2 Minutes of September 29, 2008 Commission Meeting

Chairman Robert Snelling asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the September 29, 2008 meeting minutes. There being none, the minutes were unanimously approved. *M/S/P Perry/Taylor*

R. Snelling informed the committee and other attendees that this is an informational meeting to educate and raise awareness on wind energy. He introduced Mark Weissflog, President of KW Management and Eric Steltzer, Energy Policy Analyst, State of NH, Office of Energy & Planning. Snelling asked how many towns attending are formulating wind energy. There were approximately six communities considering wind energy.

3 Wind Energy Applications and Installation in NH

Snelling introduced Mark Weissflog, President of K.W. Management, Inc. M. Weissflog stated he has been doing wind energy for approximately 12 years, with systems in NH.. He stated that wind energy is site specific and for areas that have the right type of wind. NH is prone to high/strong winds that are not good for wind energy. Not all sites are conducive and must generate a wind speed of 13+ miles per hour. Topography is very important. There are various wind indicators, such as direction of tree growth (deciduous and conifer trees) that can identify strong winds in an area. Small turbines produce AC power that must be converted to DC power, which must then be converted to grid-quality AC power. M. Weissflog spoke on the different types of turbines and how many kilowatts are generated. He explained the difference between vertical and horizontal turbines, as well as the various tower and mounting types. M. Weissflog stated that Public Service Company of NH (PSNH), NH Electric Coop (NHEC), and National Grid allows you to net meter to store power. He noted that wind turbines on buildings are not recommended because it requires structural integrity. Environmental concerns were discussed such as: bird kills, destruction to habitats, endangered species, wetlands, light flicker, noise, and permitting needs. M. Weissflog covered what the incentives and motivators are for wind energy.

4 Wind Energy Regulations in NH

E. Steltzer stated that there is a growing demand to go 'Green' and that many communities have or are looking at wind energy. House Bill 310 was formed in 2007 and passed in 2008 that created the framework for wind energy with little mandates. He commented that in RSA 674:62-66 municipal regulations cannot unreasonably limit or hinder small wind energy systems. Height, setback, sound, electrical, structural, and FAA requirements were discussed. He also covered abutter notification, building inspector, building permit process, and regional impacts. Weissflog explained the difference between small scale wind turbines (under 100 kilowatts) and utility scale (>100 kilowatts). The regulatory process is dependent upon the turbine capacity. Local jurisdiction is for 100 kW or less and primarily used for onsite consumption, which falls under the local jurisdiction. Sites with 100 kW to 30 Megawatts are generally electricity providers. This requires local jurisdiction or

petition to the State, normal site plan review, and ZBA action in most cases. State jurisdiction and Site Evaluation Committee are required for electricity providers of 30+ Megawatts. He walked through the review procedure, siting standards, abandonment procedure, and violation and penalties. With ordinance customization, He provided a list of the seven most important provisions.

A brief questions and answer session was held after the presentations. Handouts were provided to all attendees.

5 Other Discussion

R. Snelling thanked the speakers for their presentation. K. Koulet thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the library for hosting the meeting. He informed every one of upcoming meetings:

- UNH – The NH Sustainable Energy Home Energy Conference – December 6, 2008
- Energy Alliance – next meeting will be in 2009

6 Other Business

Chairman Snelling reminded everyone the next Commission Meeting would be held on January 26, 2009, the location to be determined. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM.