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Visions

SNHPC

SERVING OUR REGION'S COMMUNITIES SINCE 1966

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Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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SNHPC 51st Annual Meeting

The Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission hosted its Annual Meeting on Friday, September 8, 2017 at *Fratello's* in Manchester. About 60 people gathered to celebrate the occasion, including commissioners, municipal officials, and guests from around the region.



John Broderick is Co-Chair, Campaign to Change Direction NH and Former NH Supreme Court Justice, provided the keynote address: [Mental Health: A Little Knowledge Can Go A Long Way](#)

Judge Broderick candidly discussed what he has learned about mental illness, and the Change Direction NH campaign, which is designed to enhance public knowledge and awareness of mental illness/emotional suffering. This non-partisan, non-political campaign is the first statewide launch of this national campaign in the country.

Outgoing SNHPC Chair Karen McGinley thanked all of the volunteers and staff who contribute to the success of the Commission. New officers were announced during the meeting: Frederick McGarry of Deerfield will be Chairman; Jeff Moulton, Derry, Vice-Chair; Deborah Lievens of Londonderry, Secretary; and David Pierce of Goffstown, Treasurer.

In addition, the winner of the 2017 Raymond E. Closson Award is Peter Griffin of Windham. The James W. Tethers Award was presented

Richard Snow, Candia
 Albert Hall, Candia
 Andrew Hadik, Chester
 Deborah Munson, Chester
 Frances Menard, Deerfield
 Frank Bartkiewicz, Derry
 Adam Burch, Derry
 John O'Connor, Derry
 Scot Heath, Frankestown
 Rebecca Harris, Alt., Frankestown
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 Martin Srugis, Alt., Londonderry
 Peter Capano, Manchester
 Raymond P. Clement, Manchester
 Daniel P. O'Neil, Manchester
 Elias "Skip" Ashooh, Manchester
 Kevin McCue, Alt., Manchester
 Joe Constance, Alt., New Boston
 Mark Suennen, New Boston
 Angela Drake, Weare
 Wendy Stevens, Weare
 Carl Griffin, Windham
 Peter Griffin, Windham
 Mark Samsel, Windham
 Eileen Mashimo, Alt., Windham

SNHPC Staff

Sylvia von Aulock
Executive Director

Nathan Miller, AICP
Deputy Executive Director

Linda Moore-O'Brien
Office Administrator

Linda Shinn
Financial Administrator



to Jo Ann Duffy of Goffstown.

For more information, please contact Sylvia von Aulock at 669-4664 or



svonaulock@snhpc.org.



SNHPC Welcomes Planning Intern Maddie Dilonno

On September 5, 2017 Madeleine DiIonno became the newest SNHPC intern. Born and raised in southern Vermont, she graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 2017 with a B.S. in Community & Environmental Planning. Along with her education, she has obtained a variety of diverse project and field work experience from her previous work with UNH Cooperative Extension, UNH Campus Planning and Rockingham Planning Commission.



As an aspiring planner and recent graduate, she is looking forward to being a part of the SNHPC team and beginning her career in community planning. When not working she can be found hiking and enjoying the outdoors throughout New Hampshire and her home state of Vermont.

Maddie can be reached at 669-4664 or mdiiionno@snhpc.org.

Scenic Byway Marketing in NH About to Receive a Boost

Jihong "Julie" Chen,
Ph.D.
Principal
Transportation
Planner

Adam Hlasny
Transportation
Planner

Pamela Garrity
Planning Technician
II

Cameron Prolman
Associate Planner

Derek Shooster
Associate Planner

Madeleine Dilonno
Planning Intern

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Despite their recreational value and important contributions to tourism and economic activity, there is no unified marketing strategy for New Hampshire's Scenic Byways. Spearheaded by SNHPC staff, the inaugural Statewide Scenic Byway Marketing Forum was held on April 12, 2017. Over 30 attendees from across the state gathered in Meredith to hear presentations by NH Division of Travel & Tourism (DTTD) President Vicki Cimino and NH DOT Scenic & Cultural Byways Program Manager William Rose. Attendees then engaged in a dialogue on how best to market our state's byways going forward.



Photo by Adam Hlasny

On the heels of enthusiasm generated at the April forum, SNHPC staff initiated a Statewide Scenic Byways Marketing Committee which met on August 2 and is scheduled to meet again on November 2. This committee is composed of representatives from three regional planning commissions, the NH Scenic & Cultural Byways Council, and the Upper Lamprey Scenic Byway Council. It is tasked with investigating potential grant opportunities for the production of a NH Scenic Byways brochure and/or map, as well as collaborating with DTTD on integration of Scenic Byway information into existing online platforms.

With renewed attention and zeal, the difficult task of making these byways well-known is underway. The benefits of such efforts will surely be felt when travelers are able to open glossy brochures and maps that lead them toward New Hampshire's picturesque roadside wonders.

For more information about the Scenic Byways, contact Adam Hlasny, Transportation Planner, at 669-4664 or ahlasny@snhpc.org.

SNHPC Goes Solar!

In June 2017, the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) turned on its first photovoltaic (PV) solar system. For over six months, SNHPC Commissioners worked with staff to review and select proposals from many local solar companies.

Ultimately the Joint Building and Budget Committee recommended signing a contract with Granite State Solar to install a 64 panel PV solar system on the building, using the Commission's building funds to purchase this turnkey system. The PV solar system was designed to blend in with the historic character of the building and offset up to 65% of the commission's monthly electric bill for a guaranteed 25 years or longer.



Some of the key factors the Building Committee considered included the difference in the types, size and color of the solar panels; the differences in the technologies that would be used to convey the solar electricity; the output and annual production of kWh; the percent of electrical offset to the commission's electric bills; the system costs and state PUC Commercial Rebate that would be applied to lower the cost of the system; the estimated annual Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) paid back to SNHPC annually as credit for excess power generated by the solar PV system; the estimated rate of return and number of years it would take to pay off the solar PV system; the installation workmanship, panel and ranking system guarantees; and the placement of the conduit for the wiring to be located either outside or inside the building.

The GSS installation not only has an immediate and direct economic reduction in the commission's short and long-term cost for electricity, but it will also provide an educational example of a successful solar PV system that many municipalities and private entities both within and surrounding the City of Manchester can visit and observe for many years to come.

In the month of September alone, SNHPC's PV solar system has produced 1,696.6 kWh of clean, renewable energy. By producing renewable energy, SNHPC has offset its carbon emissions by 2,580 lbs, the equivalent of saving 30 trees. To date, the system has produced 5,906 kWh of renewable energy.

For more information, contact Cam Prolman at 669-4664 or cprolman@snhpc.org.

SNHPC Named AARP NH's Community Partner

of the Year!

Over the past year, SNHPC has worked with AARP New Hampshire on our Becoming Age-Friendly (BAF) program-- a program designed to assess the built and social infrastructure in our region as it relates to a growing senior population as well as a declining millennial population. With the support from AARP, we were able to utilize the organization's various outreach tools and surveys, managed to supply our community conversations with local food and beverages, and hosted a very well-attended public event at the NH Institute of Politics showcasing some of the work done through the BAF program.



In early September, AARP New Hampshire selected the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission to receive their 2017 Community Partner of the Year award. In a statement to SNHPC, AARP NH wrote:

This award is given to recognize an outstanding organization in our state that has a long standing relationship with AARP and whose mission in serving the needs of New Hampshire and the 50+ is their highest priority.

We take great pride in congratulating you for your outstanding work. Your organization's service and commitment provide an extraordinary example of the difference organizations can make in the lives of individuals and in the well-being and vitality of a community.

We are grateful to receive the 2017 Community Partner of the Year award from AARP New Hampshire, and look forward to continuing the planning work alongside AARP NH and many other committed organizations to enable more livable communities for people of all ages.

On September 21, 2107, SNHPC reconvened the Becoming Age-Friendly Stakeholder Committee to discuss strategies for Phase II of the Program. Staff will work with stakeholders to establish working sub-committees to develop criteria, applications, and the parameters for the Becoming Age-Friendly Pilot Program, where municipalities and businesses may apply to create projects and strategies to enable an environment which is more livable for people of all ages.

If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to Sylvia von Aulock, and be sure to stay updated by checking out our [Age-Friendly webpage](#) and by following us on [Facebook](#)!

For more information, contact Cam Prolman at 669-4664 or cprolman@snhpc.org.

Automatic Traffic Counter Replacement

SNHPC has begun replacing its aging Automatic Traffic Counter (ATR) fleet with seven new Omega X3 ATRs by Diamond Traffic Counting Products. The old fleet, with solar panels and rechargeable batteries, weighing approximately 12 pounds, were purchased between 2001 and 2004. The Omega X3 features an inhouse replaceable lithium battery with a five-year lifespan and weighs 3 pounds. They are also compatible with the NH DOT's new MS2 file format.

These ATRs not only collect volumes but will also distinguish the types of vehicles on a roadway and speeds. These services are available to all our 14 communities through their dues. If a community has special needs in this arena, please contact Pamela Garrity at pgarrity@snhpc.org or by calling 669-4664.



NH Municipal Association Annual Conference

SAVE THE DATE: This year's **New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) 76th Annual Conference (Nov. 15th and 16th)** will feature two important topics for our region presented by talented staff from Regional Planning Commissions and partnering agencies. These topics are:

1. **Demystifying the MS4 Permit:** New Hampshire's new MS4 permit was released on January 18, 2017, and goes into effect July 2018. While seemingly daunting, many communities are already well on their way to compliance with their existing stormwater programs. This session will provide an overview of the new permit, walk through some easy first steps to compliance, provide examples of how other communities and institutions are approaching the permit requirements, and share available resources. *Jennifer Czysz, Deputy Executive Director, Nashua Regional Planning Commission; Julie Labranche, Senior Planner, Rockingham Planning Commission; Barbara McMillan, Watershed Outreach Coordinator, NH Department of Environmental Services; Tim Puls, Research Engineer, UNH Stormwater Center. Hosted by: NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions (Wed, Nov 15th at 3:15)*

2. Becoming Age-Friendly in Southern New Hampshire: Over the past year, Southern NH Planning Commission has been working with its 14 municipalities as well as businesses on a "Becoming Age-Friendly" (BAF) program. This program has been made possible by a grant from the Tufts Health Plan Foundation, NHDOT, and other program supporters. The program addresses the statewide issue of a growing senior population and a decrease in millennial population, with the goals of attracting millennials back to their communities and ensuring that the growing senior population can "age in place." This presentation will review the first phase, which involved surveying residents and assessing all 14 municipalities in the SNHPC region on age-friendly characteristics, including transportation, housing, recreation and engagement, and business and economic development. Speakers will also discuss progress on Phase II, which will include the development of creative short-term to long-term solutions with pilot communities and businesses. *Sylvia von Aulock, Executive Director; Derek Shooster, Associate Planner; and Cameron Prolman, Associate Planner, Southern NH Planning Commission; Todd Fahey, State Director, AARP New Hampshire* (Thurs., Nov 16th at 1:30)

NHMA's theme this year is "The Challenge of Change!" This year's conference will be featuring over 50 educational sessions on timely and relevant topics, as well as ample opportunities to meet and greet with exhibitors ready to offer you the latest products and services.

Please visit NHMA's website:

<https://www.nhmunicipal.org/annualconference>

to find the most up-to-date information.

The Southern NH Planning Commission, 438 Dubuque Street, Manchester, NH 03102

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