



**MINUTES OF THE PARK POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
November 13, 2014**

The Committee meeting convened at approximately 2:00 p.m.

Park Policy and Planning Committee Members Present:

Committee members in attendance included Committee Chair Sherman Craig, Richard Booth, William Thomas, and Designee Bradley Austin, Department of Economic Development.

Other Members and Designees Present:

Agency Chairwoman Leilani Ulrich, Members Karen Feldman, Arthur Lussi, Daniel Wilt, and Designees Dierdre Scozzafava, Department of State and Robert Stegemann, Department of Environmental Conservation.

Local Government Review Board:

Fred Monroe, Executive Director

Agency Staff Present:

Executive Director Terry Martino, Counsel James Townsend, Deputy Director Planning Kathy Regan, and Associate Natural Resources Planner Matthew Kendall

Approval of Draft Committee Minutes for October 2014

A motion to approve the draft committee minutes was made by Designee Austin and was seconded by Member Thomas. All were in favor.

Park Policy and Planning Division Report (K. Regan)

Ms. Regan briefly reviewed the monthly activity report for the Planning Division which was included in the monthly mailing packet to the Board. She spoke about the on-going SLMP public listening sessions and the positive response staff has encountered with this format.

Ms. Regan noted that the final UMPs for St. Regis Mountain and Hurricane Mountain Fire Tower Historic Areas have been released. Final stewardship plans will be made with the two volunteer

friends groups which will be involved with the restoration of the fire towers.

Ms. Regan also spoke about the outreach work being done by Local Government Services staff with the Town of Edinburg. In addition she noted that dates have been selected for the 2015 Local Government Day Conference. This year's conference will be held on April 15 and 16 with Agency meeting to follow on April 17, 2015.

Town of Westport-MA 2014-04 (M. Kendall)

This item was presented for informational purposes only.

Mr. Kendall discussed the landowner's request to reclassify approximately 12 acres of land from Resource Management to Moderate Intensity Use or Hamlet. The proposal is contingent upon connecting the property to the existing municipal sewer system. Mr. Kendall noted that the Town has passed a resolution supporting the landowner's request contingent upon the granting of the Map Amendment by the Agency, and with the understanding that the infrastructure needs to be expanded.

Local Government Review Board Executive Director, Fred Monroe, noted that sewer expansions are very expensive and it makes sense to approve the amendment request contingent upon expansion of the sewer system. If the proposal does not happen and the plan cannot be carried out, then the Town has not committed funds for the infrastructure upgrades for an area that cannot be developed.

Designee Stegemann added that approvals should be conditioned such that any capacity issues related to the existing sewer system be addressed accordingly.

Committee Chair Craig stated this is a creative solution and asked what the next steps for the Agency would be. Mr. Kendall responded a draft Environmental Impact Study would be undertaken by staff and once completed, more detailed information would be compiled so that appropriate conditions can be included in the approval process.

Executive Director Martino noted that a few years ago Matt Rogers and Bill Johnston spoke to the Board regarding this type of scenario and how to make it work; how do Towns make it work in terms of looking at capacity of their soil and concerns they might have in regards to their water and sewer infrastructure.

The Board input as to whether this is a reasonable approach is important to the staff work and next steps with the EIS.

Demonstration of Look-Up 2 and New Modifications of Blue Line
(J. Barge)

John Barge provided a presentation on Mapping the Blue Line and on the interactive web mapping application that is available to the public on the Agency's website. He presented a history of the legislative and mapping changes made to the Blue Line and then discussed how the line on the map has changed as a result of more precise mapping mechanisms. The updates do not change the current Blue Line as legislatively described, but rather provide a more accurate mapping of the Park boundary.

Mr. Barge directed the Board to the GIS section of the web site which has the Agency mapping resources/application available to the public. He demonstrated various mapping applications that enable users to detail maps according to specific data sets. He noted that there is a disclaimer to contact the Agency for a jurisdictional determination.

Executive Director Martino thanked the counties for providing tax map information free of charge to the Agency for use in developing the GIS data. Local Government Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe asked if the data will be provided to the towns to incorporate into their maps. Mr. Barge responded affirmatively; the data has been shared with the towns.

Agency Chair Ulrich encouraged staff to find effective ways to communicate and assist individual landowners if they have questions.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m.