

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** July 14, 2010

**Location:** Nashua River Watershed Association

**Attendees:**

Commissioners: Mike Roberts, Carl Flowers, Steve Webber

Liaisons: Mark Archambault

Commissioners absent: Leo Laverdure

**Minutes taken by:** Stephanie Strickland

**Agenda:**

1. Establish summer meeting schedule
2. Discuss Open Meeting Law
3. Discuss scoring of café results
4. Discuss Master Plan participation
5. Review and approve previous minutes
6. Begin planning 2010/2011 action activities
7. Adjourn

**Agenda Item # 3: Discuss scoring of café results**

**Discussion**

- Mike: We're making contributions to the town and the Master Plan. I got very interesting results from the café's that I will share if you would like.
- Mike: We had the sustainability café, the Groton community dinner, the Rotary Club, and the town department heads. What I tried to do was match up the results with the three legs of the sustainability stool.
- Mike: When I added them up for question number 1 I got 11 for environment, 30 for economy, and 25 for community. For number 2 I got 14 for environment, 30 for economy, and 40 for community. For number 3 there were 14 for environment, 17 for economy, and 65 for community.
- Mike: People care most about the community.
- Steve: That would include rural character.
- Mike: It is interesting that the department heads said 0 for environment, 8 for economy, and 2 for community for question number one and 0 for environment, 2 for economy, and 2 for community for question number 2.
- Mike: I'm not quite sure what I'm going to do with this.
- Steve: I think people might believe we've already done a lot with the conservation and that's why environment was so low, but there are a lot more issues to think about.
- Mike: At the next meeting I will give everyone a copy of this to look over. The next step is what we're going to do with these. We need to think of how to get these results out to as many people as possible.
- Steve: The new website has scheduled meetings and agendas.

- Mark: I want to make sure I get out when the next meeting is.
- Mike: August 11<sup>th</sup> and then September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Agenda Item #6: Begin planning 2010/2011 action activities**

#### **Discussion**

- Mike: We decided we would like to have an event every 3 to 4 months, that are similar to the café but with different topics. The first one we talked about doing was agriculture. What kind of event do you think would be best? A fair?
- Steve: In that case you wouldn't be able to sit down and have a discussion. Are you going to have a booth at Groton-Fest?
- Mike: Yes, we've had one for the past two years.
- Mike: Maybe we need some kind of information session.
- Steve: I think that would be a good idea.
- Mike: We should have an information session followed by a workshop showing how this could work.
- Carl: We've talked about wildlife before, but I knew people who had to re-plant four times because the deer. How much crop is ruined because of the wildlife?
- Mike: That seems like an issue the town should help with.
- Carl: I wrote a letter and they said I should put a fence up, but it's expensive to put up a fence like that.
- Steve: I think there are some things that can be done in regards to those problems.
- Carl: But why should we have to pay every year to kill animals bothering our crops?
- Steve: We should encourage personal farming.
- Mike: I'm excited about having an agricultural related event.
- Steve: I don't want to make this too difficult, but I think we should consider including other towns. There's not enough market demand in one town, but it could be more efficient county based.
- Mike: Could we have something at the fair grounds? That's really a neat place. We could set up a tent to have a discussion under. Chase thought it would be nice to have a discussion on sustainability.