

**NCC Scenic Byways Meeting
October 10, 2006
9:00-11:00**

Present: Carol Barleon, Betsey Harding, Cynthia Briggs, Chris Thayer, Michael King, and Mary Deppe.

Welcome and Introductions

The committee began the meeting at 9am with discussions about how Frank Wolfe has left both the Scenic Byways and NCC Transportation Committees. Jack Rose of Albany will be replacing him at the TransComm meetings and the group decided to extend the invitation to include the Byways Committee as well. A card will be sent to Frank to thank him for all of his hard work and dedication.

The group clarified that the focus of this committee is on the White Mountain Trail/Kancamagus National Byway. There was also discussion on how all committee members should be called and asked if they would still like to participate in these meetings. NCC staff will take care of this task prior to the next meeting. There was also a suggestion to “beef up” the agenda in order to stimulate a greater attendance.

Corridor Management Plan

The first agenda item covered was to review the Corridor Management Plan and make updates. Most of the updates discussed are visible on the draft that is attached to these minutes. Some sections of the plan regarding numbers and statistics will be updated in the future upon receiving input from NH DOT or other relative organizations.

2006-2007 Grant Round

Carol explained that NCC received a grant for a White Mountain Interpretive Center/Kiosk Plan. Mary Deppe explained that the purpose of the grant is to create a plan to tie together maps and view/rest stops along the byway and to work this information into the website that White Mountain Attractions will be making. The plan would also locate “gaps” along the corridor, for example, are there long stretches of road without restroom facilities? Carol discussed other projects that were funded. She will bring a list for the committee to the next meeting.

Carol mentioned that there will probably be a new grant round announced in January of 2007. Possible future projects include:

- Rick Johnson will be submitted an application for Phase 2 of the Poore Family Farm.
- WREN is thinking about applying for funds to dedicate one room of their new building for information about the Scenic Byway.

There was discussion about the application process. It was decided that applications come to the NCC Scenic Byways Committee where they are ranked.

At this point in time, NCC should only solicit projects along the National Scenic Byway. NCC will send a letter to communities along the National Byway explaining that there will be a formal announcement of the grant round in January. It will also include the criteria for the grant and contact information for Carol Barleon and Mary Deppe to discuss potential projects. Info about the upcoming grant round will also put in the NCC newsletter and Grant Update so all North Country towns will be aware of the funding. Grant criteria/info should also be put on the NH Scenic Byways website.

Other Items

Carol Barleon suggested putting an article in the NCC Newsletter about Red List Bridges. NCC staff will work on this and try to get a write-up in the next issue.

Michael King explained that this is the last year NCC will be receiving a Scenic Byways administration grant. In the future, NCC will be using some funds from the UPWP grant from NH DOT to support the Scenic Byways Committee and to continue coordinating meetings.

Carol explained to the committee that the State of Maine is going forward with nominating a Scenic Byway on Route 113 in Maine. The road goes through Chatham, NH and the town is not supportive of this project. There was some discussion on what this means for the Town of Chatham, even though they are not a designated byway. This could increase traffic.

There was some discussion on what the committee would like to do, if anything at all, for promotion/sales of the byway to help fund the byway and the committee. The general consensus of those present was that there is little to no interest in selling items and not much need for more promotion.

There was talk about updating the Guide Book. Does it need to be updated? Does there need to be more emphasis in the book about the National Scenic Byway? Should there be updates made to the National Byway brochure?

The following action items were discussed:

- 1.) Ask Stacey Doll to dedicate part of a Community Planning Session on “what towns can do in planning to preserve/promote Scenic Byways”.
- 2.) Develop manual standards dealing with specific traffic generators, for example, “Best Practices for Special Events.”

Suggestions for the next meeting:

- 1.) Update the CMP from page 6 through the end of the document.
- 2.) Make/discuss new list of proposed projects.
- 3.) Invite someone from NH DOT to discuss the Route 16 Bypass in Conway.
- 4.) Discuss action items that were created.

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 28th** from 9am to 11am at the NCC Offices. Future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of every other month. Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

- **November 28th, 2006**
- **January 9th, 2006**
- **March 13th, 2006**
- **May 8th, 2006**
- **July 10th, 2006**
- **September 11th, 2006**

Minutes Approved: 11/28/06