

## MINUTES

### RPC Legislative Policy Committee March 13, 2017 \*\* 4:00 PM \*\* RPC Conference Room

**Attendance:** B. Kravitz, T. Moore; Staff: G. Greenwood

The meeting was called to order by Kravitz at 4:08

1. Minutes of Jan 23, 2017: Moore moved to approve the Meeting minutes of January 23, Kravitz seconded. SO VOTED.
2. Report from Members on LSRs and Bills (based on Tim's Spreadsheet). Kravitz described to Greenwood the spreadsheet that has been prepared for the committee by T. Moore as a tool for tracking proposed legislation of interest to the Planning Commission.

As a response to comments made by an Exeter Commissioner regarding HB 182, the committee discussed the pros and cons of taking a position on the bill which clarifies primacy of a default budget if a Town's proposed budget fails to pass. Since this bill does not speak directly to the responsibilities of the RPC it was determined by the committee that no position should be taken. Kravitz suggested a new section for the RPC website that would enable commissioners to engage in open discussion with one another about a wide range of topics. Such an open digital forum offers an additional mechanism for the vetting of issues by the full commission.

T Moore described briefly changes that will be made to the next iteration of the spreadsheet. Kravitz asked that a notation be added to the information regarding HB 154 that S. Bogle of the RPC has written a letter of support for the bill to the House Committee reviewing the legislation.

Kravitz stated that each year the RPC provides personal or written testimony at the Statehouse for six to eight bills of importance to the Commission.

Kravitz reported on a meeting she had with Nancy Stiles, former state senator regarding the energy and REGGI related legislation proposed on the current docket. As an aside Kravitz related that Stiles recommended sending any correspondence we prepare to the Chairman of the responsible reviewing committee as well as sending copies to each member of the committee. This increases the opportunity for a member to review our letters before the day of the hearing.

The committee determined that legislators should be invited to future legislative policy meetings as a way of raising the profile of the Commission as well as fostering a better understanding of proposed legislation. Possible invitees included regional members of either the house or senate transportation committees, Martha Fuller Clark, Robert Renny Cushing or Dan Innis.

#### 4. NHARPC Legislative Breakfast 4/6/17

The committee talked about the RPC presence at the breakfast and proposed bringing copies of the RPC's Legislative Policies and perhaps a postcard with the Commission's contact and website information. In addition, the committee thought members could think about which legislators to reach out to at the event.

#### 5. Next meeting actions and agenda items

Committee members would like to discuss proposed topics for the 2017 Legislative Forum at the next meeting. Possible topics include MS4 compliance or a roundtable discussion about various water-related topics, perhaps desalination on the NH coast.

Greenwood will send out the attendance list from last year's Legislative Forum to committee members.

#### 6. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 Next meeting: March 27 unless needed earlier.

*Minutes prepared by: Glenn Greenwood, Assistant Director*