



New Boston Community Profile Report

New Boston, New Hampshire
April 2 & 3, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Creating a Community Profile in New Boston.....	3
Agenda.....	4
Friday Evening.....	6
The Mosaic.....	6
The Vision.....	7
The Eleven Components.....	8
1. Effective Community Leadership.....	9
2. Informed Citizen Participation.....	11
3. Sense of Community and Recreation & Cultural Heritage.....	14
4. Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth.....	16
5. Lifelong Education and Learning.....	18
6. Community Services, Facilities and Utilities.....	21
7. Recreation and Cultural Heritage (combined with component #3).....	23
8. Working Landscape and the Natural Environment.....	26
9. Economic Vitality.....	29
10. Growth and Development.....	31
11. Transportation.....	34
Saturday Morning: Key Issues.....	37
Transportation and Road Safety	
Local Economy and Tax Base	
Citizen Participation	
Lifelong Education	
Human/Recreational Services	
Village and Community Character Projects	
Preservation of Natural Resources	
Planning/Zoning/Growth	
Saturday Morning.....	56
Project Selection.....	56
Action Groups.....	58
Village District Preservation/Rural Character	
Foot Traffic and Road Safety	
Planning/Zoning/Growth	
Multi-use Conference Center	
Middle School	
Community Coordinator	
Conclusion	
Appendices – Follow-up meeting.....	62

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OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY PROFILES

The Community Profile is a process by which communities take stock of where they are today and develop an action plan for how they want to operate in the future. Whether the issue is a quality school system, an air pollution problem, lack of adequate affordable housing or solid waste disposal, the need for effective problem-solving skills is the same. A community must have strong leaders, from all sectors, who are able to work together with informed involved citizens to reach agreement on issues. The Community Profile assists communities to develop their problem-solving ability. It is a self-evaluation tool that draws heavily on the collective wisdom of the participants and is not a test or a comparison between communities. It provides a method for citizens to affirm community strengths, identify concerns and problems, and then to help a community structure collaborative approaches to meet these challenges creatively, set directions for the future, and manage change.

The original Civil Profile emerged from the Governor's Commission on New Hampshire in the 21st Century as a process and a mechanism that communities could use to strengthen their civic infrastructure. The National Civic League, along with several university studies, identified those qualities that make a community work - that help communities plan for the future and survive such dramatic changes as extreme population growth, plant shut-downs or military base closings.

In 1995, the League of Women Voters in the Upper Valley, working with UNH Cooperative Extension and UVM Cooperative Extension, identified ten key qualities that help a community to work well now and sustain its social, economic, and environmental health for the future. This is the model that was adapted by the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Profile and are the "tools" of the community self-assessment.

Creating a Community Profile in New Boston

The 'New Boston History in Pictures' portion of 'New Boston Speaks' encompassed the years between 1736 and 1965. Highlights included: a short story of the days of Indians at Joe English Hill; the Battle of Bennington, VT where the Molly Stark Cannon was captured and brought to New Boston eventually; the first stagecoach to New Boston; the fire of 1887 and its affect on the town with photos of buildings before and after the fire; the flood of 1936 and its affect on the town; the transition of buildings such as the blacksmith shop which became a necktie factory and eventually the Apple Barn as well as Roger Babson's library on the land that now the Bank of New Hampshire; the many mills of New Boston; the power company on the river; our railroad and station; and finally the collapse of the bridge in the center of town in 1947, an event that many still recall.

UNH Cooperative Extension
New Boston Community Profile
April 2 & 3, 2004

Agenda

Friday Evening

6:00 Sign-in & Supper

7:00 Welcome - Charlie French, UNH Cooperative Extension

- Overview of Community Profile Process
- Who is here?

Mosaic and Vision

- What is New Boston like now?
- What do we want New Boston to be like in the future?

Historical New Boston in Pictures by Phil Lavalley

- Where has New Boston been?

7:45 Presentation of Community Profile components

Effective Community Leadership

Informed Citizen Participation

Sense of Community

Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth

Lifelong Education and Learning

Community Services, Facilities, and Utilities

Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Economic Vitality

Growth and Development

Transportation

8:00 Break/Move into small groups

8:15 Small group discussions of components

Random assignments to small groups, one component per group

- Strengths of New Boston in the component area
- Weaknesses of New Boston in the component area
- What would you like to see in the future?
- What are the 5 key issues that need to be addressed?

9:30 Formal adjournment

Saturday**8:30 Coffee and check-in****9:00 Small group reports**

- Each of the eleven small groups report to the large group, three minutes each

9:45 Selection of key issues - participants select small group/issues**10:15 Small groups meet for key issue discussion:**

- Define the problem or opportunity
- Project goals – identify what you want to accomplish
- Identify potential projects/solutions
- Evaluate potential projects using impact-feasibility grid
- Select 3 projects to bring to the full group

12:00 Full group: report back from small groups**12:30 Large group review of action items****12:45 Lunch and voting**

- Which projects do you think we should move forward on?
- Which is the most important project for New Boston right now?

1:30 Individual selection of project development groups

Project development: small groups

- Who needs to be involved (agencies/individuals)
- Resources needed
- Other things needed to be done prior to follow-up meeting

2:00 Formal adjournment

Community Profile

Friday Evening

The Community Profile was conducted at New Boston Central School over two days: Friday evening, April 2, 2004 and all day Saturday, April 3, 2004. About 185 participants attended on Friday, with 150 attending on Saturday.

The event began Friday with a spaghetti dinner. Charlie French, Extension Specialist, Community and Economic Development, gave us an overview of the profile process and an introduction to the goals for the two days. Its goal is strengthening community involvement; its key idea is sustainability - balancing economic and environmental factors while thinking about the impacts of our actions for the next seven generations.

We spent a few minutes meeting each other, learning how long we had lived in town, where we live in town, where we work, and how many of us had children in the schools. We were then asked to offer descriptions of what our town was like right now and what we would like it to be like in the future. Adjectives and phrases were called out and recorded on large easels labeled "NOW" and "FUTURE" at the front of the room. Here are the results:

THE MOSAIC - What is New Boston like today?

- safe
- quaint
- wet!
- prosperous
- changing
- energetic teen
- family oriented
- has potential
- friendly
- strong education system
- caring
- small
- attractive
- tradition
- conservation minded
- patriotic
- best place to raise kids (19 yr. old)
- natural attributes
- beautiful scenery
- too many people you don't know when you come to vote
- boring
- growing
- quiet
- convenient to major work areas
- involved
- threatened by rapid development
- future is unknown re: education
- lack commercial/industrial tax base
- historic

THE VISION - What do we want New Boston to be like in the future?

- best place to raise kids
- still be safe
- ample areas of open space
- aesthetically pleasing
- walking paths
- unchanged
- concerned with people
- a place where your child will make their home
- 25 mph speed throughout town
- allowing elderly to reside in town without taxing them out
- dynamic
- still boring
- small, friendly community
- remain quaint village
- affordable
- lowest taxes in New Hampshire
- state of art Norman Rockefeller painting
- controlled growth
- community minded
- environmental minded
- no street lights
- more teen oriented
- lifers feel their say is welcome

COMMUNITY PROFILE ELEVEN COMPONENTS

After we developed a mosaic and vision for New Boston, and digested some of the historical information, Charlie French introduced us to the idea of discussing New Boston within the framework of 11 qualities which can be used to profile a community. These topics, drawn from the work of the National Civic League and adapted by UNH Cooperative Extension are important components of any successful community. These components make a community work well now and sustain the cultural, economic and environmental health and vitality for the long-term future.

Civic Infrastructure

Effective Community Leadership
Informed Citizen Participation
Sense of Community

Community Infrastructure

Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth
Lifelong Education and Learning
Community Services, Facilities and Utilities
Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Environment

Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Economy

Economic Vitality
Growth and Development
Transportation

Next, 11 small groups of approximately 17 people each were randomly formed, one group for each of the components. The small groups adjourned to various rooms where facilitators lead the groups in their discussions and recorders made notes on more large tablets. Each group considered the definition of their component and examined the statements to be considered for their components to begin the discussion. Participants were asked to list the strengths New Boston as they saw them, and then to list its concerns. Next the groups gave some thought to the problems and issues they thought were important to the town's future. Finally, each group was asked to identify five key issues that need to be addressed by the town. These were brought back to the whole group and highlighted in three-minute summations presented by a member of each small group on Saturday morning.

1. Effective Community Leadership

Facilitator: Gerry Fairbairn Recorder: Deanna Powell Spokesperson: Melissa Harvey
 Participants: Deanna Powell, Barbara Hayes, Eileen Mahoney, Joyce Welton, Melissa Harvey, Diana Day, Kim DiPietro, Tammi Wood, Kevin McLarnen, Ken Lombard, Dianne Sawyer, Gene Kelly, Ken Clinton, Joe Cristini, Eileen Belanger, Sacha deMatteis,

Statement of Purpose:

Healthy communities have, and develop, public leaders who work together to enhance the long-term future of the community. Community leadership must be responsive, honest, efficient, enlightened, fair and accountable. It should have the ability to bring the community together to participate in open, neutral dialogue on important issues.

Leaders should be representative of their community and be able to envision an economically secure, environmentally sound and social viable future. Leaders should understand the challenges facing the community and be able to take advantage of opportunities within the community and in cooperation with neighboring ones. Leadership should empower community members to assist in resolving community issues.

Statements a community should consider:

- Our leadership actively recruits, trains and empowers new leaders
- Leadership represents diverse community interest (age and gender groups, length of time they have resided in the community, culture, etc)
- Community leadership demonstrates knowledge, accountability, professionalism, innovation and is results-oriented.
- Leaders involve local citizens in identifying community goals and resolving community issues.
- Leadership seeks out opportunities to exchange information with citizens about community issues.
- Community leadership is proactive, dealing with critical issues before they become crises.
- Leaders demonstrate long-range (20+ years) thinking. They understand the impacts of their actions on the long term health and vitality of the community.
- Leaders share the responsibilities of the community with its members and empower others to help find solutions.
- Leaders are willing to consider and use creative methods for addressing challenges, and look for regional solutions where appropriate.
- Leaders discuss issues with other leaders in the region.

Group Response - Strengths:

- caring community
- good core group of volunteers
- good pulse of the community (leaders needed)
- people giving of their time
- involved volunteer leaders
- leaders hire good paid leaders
- enable diversity in people
- doesn't appear "political" – personal politics
- people don't have their own agendas

- working for whole community not just one
- leaders have been astute financially
- very solid financial lenders funding
- ability to network
- finding the person's strength
- high degree of dedication
- many opportunities for helping out and being a leader
- a lot of people volunteer
- strong partnership between informal leaders and formal leaders
- direct form of government
- town government very accessible (hours available)
- Irene!
- business leaders supportive
- excellent school/leaders/volunteers
- caring attitude of school
- church leaders accessible
- community events help next level of leaders/volunteers to grow
- leaders take time with you
- medical professionals (Dr. Brenner's new building) willing to take risk for benefit of community
- New Boston Bulletin
- New Boston Bulletin lists volunteer opportunities
- land purchased to preserve open space

Group Response - Challenges:

- volunteers are getting burned out
- leaders need to bring more people involved
- higher level jobs
- town structure doesn't foster next group
- experience necessary for higher level jobs (Selectmen level)
- recruitment new volunteers
- town structure requires continuous volunteers
- people don't know where they can volunteer
- communicate to commuters of volunteer opposition
- web-site need message board and volunteer sign-ups
- state regulations too much responsibility/liability
- start-ups/continuing "things" – so many rules and regulations
- natural restraints to business leaders for growth
- big projects require fund raising large amounts of money
- skills involved in big projects requiring fund raising
- control growth
- keep the small town feel
- Senate Bill 2
- more difficult to pass large items
- don't get a chance to discuss
- leaders don't get a chance to present their case
- we've lost opportunities for leadership of Selectmen (lost voice of town meeting)
- how does the town work?

- no public forum
- elderly feel left out without town meeting
- new people don't know how the town works
- don't have the exposure to town leaders without town meeting
- bedroom community – apathy of many citizens
- can't lead those that don't want to be led
- more people voting but don't know what they are voting on
- working without town meeting
- cohesively bring about control of our planning destiny
- people feel out of control of the growth
- planning board approval without looking at impact of town
- planning board
- how to enable controlled growth
- state laws and location of New Boston
- Planning Board must act on planning ordinance and Master Plan
- appropriate ordinance to support the Master Plan
- complex process
- people have energy and initiative to sponsor preserving open space
- volunteers have trouble keeping up with Master Plan planning

Vision for the Future:

- visionary leadership
- need a way to communicate to the masses
- reinstate town meeting
- volunteer coordinator
- mentoring program for leadership
- translating Master Plan
- linked Master Plan and ordinances
- strong Master Plan document, specific guidelines
- capture spirit of community to update Master Plan “refresh” on a regular basis
- political system that can translate spirit of community into action, effective time frame
- bigger pool of volunteer leadership for long range planning

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. foster and mentor leadership and volunteers, grow leadership pool (business, school, political, volunteers)
2. leadership has community's vision and the tools to guide growth (e.g. Master Plan and ordinances)
3. replicate the communication of town meeting (e.g. immediate feedback “arms length”)
4. people get to vote and have a say on all issues
5. motivating the general public to be involved and care

2. Informed Citizen Participation

Facilitator: Paula Bellemore Recorder: Anne Dignard Spokesperson: not noted
 Participants: Lorraine Miller, Jeff Day, Kristen deMatteis, Janet Cristini, Amy Daniels, Patricia Grosso, David Elliott, David Planter, Charles Grandall, David Woodbury, Jim Sawyer, Bob Furey, Nonah Poole, Dick Moody, Richard Harvey, Paula Bellemore

Statement of Purpose:

In a healthy community, citizens actively participate through voting in the local elections, serving on local boards, attending public hearings, and being involved in civic organizations and community activities. The increasing complexity of municipal operations is limiting the ability of government to meet community needs, escalating the importance of active citizen involvement and volunteerism.

All sectors within a community – private, public and nonprofit-must each take responsibility for the community's civic education and exchange information with the public. All citizens need to develop knowledge and skills to contribute to community life. Shared problem solving and planning for the future as a community increases local pride and commitment.

Statements a community should consider:

- Citizens know how the system works and it is easy for newcomers to learn how to get involved in the community.
- People find out easily what is going on in the community.
- We have a _____ level of volunteerism and philanthropy in the community.
- Civic education efforts involve the entire community.
- Schools, churches, youth and civic groups provide citizen education and promote community service.
- Citizens are actively recruited and involved in major projects.
- Citizens volunteer to serve on local boards and committees.
- Participation is proactive instead of reactive, facing community issues before they become crises.
- Civic organizations and local businesses actively contribute to community functions.
- Citizens have the information they need to make good decisions.
- There is both adequate and balanced media coverage of local events and issues.
- Local communities and boards communicate well with each other, the public and with boards and committees throughout the region.
- Local citizens are actively involved in civic and business organizations and clubs that involve interaction with residents of neighboring communities.

Group Response – Strengths

- Dodge's porch
- town papers are a good resource
- children in school
- New Boston phone book
- lots of volunteers for fire department
- read the newspaper

- small size leads to participation
- word of mouth
- good town government leads to a sense of satisfaction/see results
- town hall employees are very helpful
- we care – no strangers
- atmosphere of caring remains despite growth
- the three churches
- fireman’s breakfast
- people who do volunteer, volunteer a lot
- strong network of volunteers
- sense of community/village
- balanced mature leadership
- many long-term families/roots
- children come back
- many opportunities to get involved
- groups are welcoming
- sense of responsibility to participate/volunteer
- welcoming committee
- people are welcoming and helpful
- town dump

Group Response – Challenges:

- hard to get to know new neighbors
- commuting out of town
- volunteer burn out
- cliques
- getting to know neighbors – difficult to meet them
- people’s schedules
- weather – pushes everyone indoors
- getting people interested in participating
- being producers, not just consumers
- challenging to keep traditions and organizations (i.e. Grange)
- getting people interested in traditions/organizations
- helping people understand their role
- helping new residents understand our tradition (not modernized)
- SB2 vs. town meeting
- historical legacy of Manchester Union Leader dampened participation
- multiple avenues of communication
- new people may not want to be involved – they might want to be left alone
- no elderly housing!
- destroying historical significance of town buildings
- no contested town elections
- overburdened town volunteers
- lack of opportunities back-and-forth dialogue

Vision for the Future:

- town meetings
- Internet based forum (interactive)

- tv station (focus on issues)
- more participation in 4-H and fairs
- inform citizens of local businesses
- web page for local businesses
- community meeting space
- Farmer's Market continued
- elderly housing (informed citizens)
- database of people who want to help
- advertising importance of meetings, etc/involvement
- town government youth programs
- return civics to educational curriculum
- assurance of town government working together on budgets, etc.

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. communication
2. volunteerism
 - get more volunteers
 - town government volunteers overburdened (and others)
3. town meetings
4. keep caring community
5. local economy

3. Sense of Community

Facilitator: Holly Stark Recorder: Sarah Trioli Spokesperson: Travis Daniels
 Participants: Alden Miller, Scott Hunter, Travis Daniels, Gale Furey, Mary Lanzillotti, Sherry Elliott, Gordon Carlstrom, Paul Ryder, Edward J. DiPietro, Betsey Dodge, Bin Clark, Beth Widmayer, Cyndie Wilson, Bonnie Koch, Donna Monbouquette

Statement of Purpose:

A sense of community is an intangible yet vital component of a healthy community. It encompasses elements such as image, spirit, character and pride, along with processes such as communication, inter-group relations and networking.

A community is made up of different people with different interests, experiences and backgrounds. These characteristics may divide a community into natural groups but there must be cooperation among them if the community is to work well as a unit. Increased communication and understanding of different perspectives among groups and within the community as a whole is an important factor in establishing a sense of community.

Villages, towns, and cities with a sense of community include those wherein all members: contribute to and hold a common vision for the future; respect and celebrate their heritage, diversity, and resources; share information, and; develop and sustain an abundance of social networks and relationships.

Statements a community should consider:

- There is adequate communication among diverse groups in the community such as natives/newcomers, summer/year round residents, young parents/retirees, as well as business community, commuters, etc.
- Groups like the above are involved in identifying community goals and in resolving community issues.
- The community's heritage is celebrated regularly.
- There is a common vision for our community among members.
- Community members often put aside their differences to work for the common good of the community.
- All groups know how to become involved in the community.
- Formal and informal forums exist for sharing ideas and resolving public issues.
- Collective decisions which represent broad input are reached and implemented.
- The self image of the community is a positive one.
- Social and cultural diversity are celebrated in the community.
- Local government is inclusive of all groups in its long-term planning and visioning efforts.
- Community members are proud of the community's character.

Group Response – Strengths:

- concerts at the gazebo
- Fourth of July celebration
- Hillsborough County Fair
- Farmer's Market
- large pool of interested volunteers
- volunteerism is perpetuated
- have our own newspaper
- gets the information out
- keeps citizens in touch with town government
- easy access to participation opportunities
- introduces you to people that you don't know
- makes newcomers feel welcome
- newcomer's luncheon
- natural beauty
- community involvement with school
- just the school
- on going work to retain the natural beauty
- how living in a beautiful environment effects the community
- effort to maintain the natural beauty keeps New Boston a bedroom community
- location/infrastructure limits industrial types of growth
- center of town is a true gathering place
- center of town is welcoming place to gather
- center of town is a coherent place of service
- community based and locally owned businesses
- community members are proud of the community's character
- very open town government

- diversity
- open to cultural diversity
- shooting of the Molly Stark common
- agriculture
- dirt roads

Group Response – Challenges:

- location/infrastructure – transportation inaccessibility limits types of industrial growth
- center of town is starting to sprawl weakening the sense of a center
- welcoming center is being threatened by traffic
- some groups and communities have difficulty recruiting new participants
- newcomers have difficulty buying into the community
- being a commuter town is pulling energy out of the community
- regional (high school & middle) are pulling teens' community sense out
- lack in encouragement of newcomers being involved
- SB2- no town meeting
- lack of diversity in the town
- cost of housing/living excludes newcomers and existing members of the community
- as you grow larger you lose a sense of community
- not as much communication between diverse groups
- elected officials don't represent all of the groups
- growth demands facilities, which raises taxes and drives out timers and sense of heritage
- lack of agriculture

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. minimizing obstacles to volunteerism
2. maintaining our small town identity in our face of growth
3. making known the available resources to learn about the community
4. preserving, maintaining and perpetuating the history of the town including the assistance of the elder population in remaining in the town
5. fostering stewardship and appreciation of natural resources

4. Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth

Facilitator: Brian Irwin

Recorder: Minda Henderson

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Dave Craig, Lewis Lanzillotti, Lee Brown, Joanne Luneau, Jess Willard, Martin Widmayer, Roger Gagnon, Herbert Elliott, Howard Towne, Lenny White, Robert Fehsinger

Statement of Purpose:

Most communities face a variety of challenging social issues, such as substance abuse, domestic abuse, poverty, and other concerns related to the elderly, youth, and families. Addressing these concerns effectively takes the coordinated efforts of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Support services such as adequate child day care, comprehensive after-school, youth, teen, and senior programs, preventative health and substance abuse programs, parenting and family support programs, and effective human service networks help strengthen the social fabric of a community. Aided by effective communication, compassionate leadership, active citizen participation, and inter-group cooperation, a comprehensive package of supportive services will enable a community to nurture healthy community member.

Statements a community should consider:

- There are _____ local and/or regional programs available addressing the social issues of our youth, teens, seniors, parents and families.
- The health and social services are accessible, adequate and provided in an equitable manner.
- The three sectors work together to provide a comprehensive package of programs.
- The majority of programs are of _____ quality.
- Community services are “cradle to grave”, addressing the entire age spectrum of the community.
- Local government provides an array of services for the community’s neediest members.
- There is adequate information about the available services and many community members utilize them.
- Many of the services allow families to participate together.
- Local government is responsive to emerging needs of community members.
- Local government considers and utilizes alternative methods of service delivery.

Group Response - Strengths:

- medical practice in town
- town is “a community” we know people in town
- extended family with community
- recreation department and after school activities
- lot of activities. Bulletin is a treasure, activities created by citizens
- elderly people have done a good job to keep the town the way it is
- children have decided to stay in town
- many opportunities to be involved
- the New Boston Bulletin great
- a wholesome environment
- core group of good, active people
- there are opportunities
- school system is a safe environment and looks out for less fortunate families
- senior population has some opportunities to participate, but not enough
- have a town website, but could be updated
- churches in town do much needed social services
- lot of organizations and a good core group
- have a DARE program in schools

Group Response – Challenges:

- many strangers in town, losing a sense of community
- don’t have large enough goals to talk about to draw busy people out to participate
- town is antiquated
- town meeting went away
- need civic education
- no formalized venue (town meeting) for communicating sense of community to newcomers
- senior population needs to be brought back into community

- not many seniors in town – belief that seniors as a group have very little power
- need more senior services – they move away because no transportation and no support services
- fear of what happens when I can no longer drive?
- insurance rules and regulations on driving prohibitive for seniors and ridesharing
- don't address opportunities for teenagers (13+)
- lack of discipline in schools and parenting for teens
- more teenagers and more working parents >less opportunities
- no opportunities for teens to group together
- stuck until they (teens) can drive
- don't have bike paths
- safety an issue in letting kids walk on streets – no sidewalks
- uncomfortable subjects not talked about – how many personal needs are being met by community (substance abuse, family services, etc)
- need better networking opportunities
- need to make better attempts at helping all individuals no matter how individual the needs
- no corresponding DARE program for non-school age residents
- elderly folks can't afford to live here and we're losing the opportunity to learn from them
- growth is expensive and faces some severe financial challenges in the future
- don't know what's available
- how do you control growth? Private property holdings are private decisions

Vision for the Future:

- a sense of community
- got to be a way to get commuters involved (live in town but work elsewhere)
- services available are made known
- services needed are recognized and implemented
- aggressive service provision and community participation
- town would control growth to gain open space
- low cost housing for the needy
- a gathering place in town for medium>large groups of people
- all people in community educated about what needed and why
- need to utilize wealth of experience and knowledge between compartmentalized groups (i.e. people with/without kids, etc)
- individuals have a sense of responsibility to the community beyond personal interests and ourselves
- get rid of SB2
- non-participants brought back into community sessions
- good notification of community events

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. awareness of community health and social services and events for people needing and those providing services
2. housing affordability
3. lack of public transportation
4. community services are needed for a variety of groups
 - seniors
 - teens
 - youth
5. addressing needs which are personal in nature and difficult to address publicly

5. Lifelong Education and Learning

Facilitator: Dan Rothman

Recorder: Gregg Caporossi

Spokesperson: Stephen Peach

Participants: Verna Elliott, Joan McDonald, Sue Fehsinger, Gary Filiault, Katie Kachavos, Frances Towne, Arlene Dodge, Dot Marden, Barbara Sholl, Stephen Peach, Suzanne Hawley, Gary Luneau, Gerry Perron

Statement of Purpose:

Education is a lifelong endeavor, much more extensive than just the K-12 school system. It starts at home, continues through childhood and the teen years, and progresses throughout adult life. People of all ages need to develop knowledge and skills in order to improve the quality of their own lives and those of their families, and to contribute more effectively to community life.

Programs of higher education and lifelong learning provide local business with a pool of trained employees. Other formal and informal learning opportunities allow community members to discover hidden talents and develop an array of interests and skills. Lifelong learning allows citizens to manage their lives more effectively in a changing economy and to participate in increasingly complex municipal operations with greater knowledge and skill.

Statements a community should consider:

- Educational opportunities are easily accessible and provided equitably.
- Lifelong educational opportunities, including formal and informal academic, vocational, artistic, and spiritual meet the community's needs.
- School planning is forward thinking and open to regional solutions.
- There is a plentiful pool of skilled labor for local businesses to draw from.
- The level and quality of adult literacy programming in the community is _____.
- The public school facilities adequately meet community members' needs.
- There is a (n) _____ level of quality preschool and daycare opportunities in the community.
- There is good communication and cooperation between the municipal government and the local public school board.
- Local and regional employers actively support and are involved in the local K-12 public schools.
- The community supports and values high quality K-12 public school education.
- There is a support network for community members who home-school their children.

Group Response – Strengths:

- strong K-6 (continuity of teachers, “hot school”, quality/caring of teachers’
- sense of place, strength of school enhances town
- number 1 elementary school in state
- community/parent involvement in school (senior citizen participation; leadership of principal; discipline of principal/teachers)
- art & physical education & music programs (teacher quality)
- fly fishing lessons at HUNTERS
- art/music camps in summer
- summer reading program at public library
- Camp Sargent (grade 6)
- quilting club
- library reading group
- perspective group
- Historical Society
- PWA wildlife programs
- library as source of information on local/regional programs
- Grange programs (memorial program, dictionaries to 3rd grade, scholarships)
- 4-H camps in summer
- home school network (?)
- broad opportunities of high school in Goffstown (academic & otherwise, diversity)
- skateboard project
- current pre-school’s are high quality
- seniors lunch and card game
- seniors provide sense of community history

Group Response – Challenges:

- limited pre-school
- limited day care
- after school programs – waitlist and age limits
- lack of opportunity for extra curricular activity (non-sporting)
- adult continuing education availability and better information
- after school/summer activities in structured environment after 6th grade
- transition to high school (loss of belonging, loss of confidence, social adjustment and nurturing)
- transportation scheduling (too much time on bus)
- junior high in town?
- parental involvement in latter grades (over 13)
- affordability and state funding
- representation in facility upkeep decisions at Goffstown High School
- high school facility in disrepair
- concern about transition to Goffstown Middle School - drugs
- safety concerns in high school
- lack of capacity for pre-school now and in future – and childcare
- concerns over future population growth
- affordable housing for seniors (independent living, assisted living)

Vision for the Future:

- Community Center building (seniors, teens, everyone else)
- continuing education classes
- extracurricular activities (arts & crafts, recreation)
- local citizen educators (seniors teach computers, juniors teach computers)
- hands on learning (woodworking, auto shop, horticulture)
- middle school in town
- future cooperative/regional high school
- nature center (opportunities to learn about local flora/, tie in to river path and PWA, Conservation Commission)
- supervised programs for kids 13-18 (non athletic)
- four better pre-school availability
- five expanded Historical Society (open house, museum)

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. school (middle and high) return to town
2. community center building for seniors, kids and continuing education
3. expanded pre-school availability
4. nature center that ties in with PWA, Conservation Commission and river trail
5. expanded Historical Society
 - educational activities

6. Community Services, Facilities and Utilities

Facilitator: Dave Smith

Recorder: Brett McLarnon

Spokesperson: Pete Ryder

Participants: Kelly Kennerson, Gerry Cornett, Marcy Morton, Pete Ryder, Willard O'Dodge, Kathy Bradfield, Burton Reynolds, Janet Nixon, Joe Nangle, Linda Beloin, Maddy Perron, Gail Parker, John Palmer, Tim Cady

Statement of Purpose:

A community provides many essential facilities and services to its members – public facilities such as municipal buildings, schools, sidewalks, roads, libraries, a recycling center and cemeteries as well as services and utilities such as police, fire, ambulance, highway maintenance, water and sewer. These key functions consume the majority of tax dollars and sharply influence the community's quality of life.

Statements a community should consider:

- Public facilities and services such as _____ are needed in our community.
- The community's road system is adequate and well-maintained. The use of traffic controls (signs, lights, speed limits, police, etc) is well planned and coordinated.
- Our public water source is protected.
- Our community does a great job of reducing, recycling, and disposing of its wastes.
- The town has a plan for financing the maintenance, expansion and replacement of its public facilities.
- The community is open to regional solutions for future infrastructural needs.
- Public buildings such as schools and town offices are adequate for our needs.
- Our public buildings are accessible to people with disabilities and are energy efficient.
- The community is easy to travel around by foot and bicycle.

- Officials address qualitative concerns about facilities and systems and utilize alternative methods of service delivery.
- Our officials are professional in meeting public facility, service, and utility needs.
- Appropriate physical connections exist, such as public transportation between housing and job sites.
- The levels and quality of emergency services – fire, police and ambulance are

Group Response – Strengths:

- recycling – best in state
- fair grounds
- school and community working together
- agency cooperation
- volunteer rescue (fire and rescue)
- walkability within village
- awesome library
- newspaper
- police force
- police chief
- financial program – capitol reserve fund
- town clerk orientation packet
- rural character
- great conservation areas - trails
- posting of town hall meetings and agenda
- geography/village center
- no cell phone tower
- website
- electric system
- road department

Group Response – Challenges:

- lack of sidewalks
- Dodge's intersection
- no cell phone coverage
- electric system: power outages
- lack of parking
- recreation for young people
- traffic in the center of town is too fast
- enforcement of speed limits
- Clark Hill intersection and Cemetary Hill and Tucker Hill & Old Coach
- private septic inadequate for village district
- no place for public septic location
- limited available development space in the village (for community needs)
- tired and limited town municipal office space
- SB2
- lack of sufficient number of volunteers
- bureaucracy
- space needs in library

- town out of space for community meetings and events
- no mid-range, mid-size community space
- population continuing to increase
- potential to become a bedroom community
- lack of a way to put another major thoroughfare through town
- divided community vision about future
- Rt 13 traffic island
- worn out highway department equipment
- too much salt used by highway department

Vision for the Future:

- keep the town pedestrian friendly
- village sewer district
- village zone
- lower town speed limits (25 mph?)
- do something with the barns
- parking pods
- community recreation center
- winter skating area
- truck and traffic bypass
- no engine-brakes on trucks coming through town
- public access to ball fields
- bicycling trails to hook up with the ones in Goffstown (non-motorized vehicles)
- trails for motorized vehicles
- transportation for elderly to Manchester
- residential units for the elderly
- leverage habitat for humanity type of projects in town
- more teenage focus groups
- incorporate fair grounds into community
- available sport/activity equipment for kids, etc.
- public restrooms
- Chamber of Commerce welcome center
- walking path connecting town center and post office
- more police coverage locally
- new, more state of the art library
- tourist destination
- municipal trash pickup
- use of Bailey Pond as possible gravity fed water supply

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. improve traffic safety through signage, signals, speed enforcement and pedestrian access
2. a strategic plan is needed to create more space for town offices, library, and community meetings
3. the cement barns are a potential community asset that is not being leveraged
4. the village district should be enhanced through environmental control, pedestrian access, public restrooms, targeted business development in a quaint village atmosphere
5. expand recreational facilities through additional space, equipment and activities for all ages and genders

7. Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Facilitator: Mike Powell Recorder: not noted Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Matthew Kennerson, John Bradfield, Kathy Conk Ryder, Myrna Vashaw, Kathy Palumbo, Jacqueline Siemiesz, Brenda Robinson, Tom Joseph, Donna Royce, Joanne Johnson, Randy Parker, Gerard Beloin, Mike Powell

Statement of Purpose:

Recreation and cultural activities nurture the body and soul of a community – individual and team sports, outdoor activities, arts, crafts, music, dance, theater, holidays, festivals and celebrations. Recreational opportunities allow community members to experience and appreciate the community’s diversity of natural and human resources. Cultural activities reflect and build a community’s positive sense of itself and strengthen the fabric of social interactions within the community.

Statements a community should consider:

- Our community celebrates itself in many different ways, including _____.
- There is a wide array of recreational opportunities available to community members.
- There are special cultural centers, events and festivals within the community.
- There is a high level of awareness about and accessibility to available recreational opportunities.
- Our cultural events bring together and celebrate the community’s diverse population.
- Many of the recreational opportunities allow community members to experience the community’s natural resources.
- The community preserves and enhances what is special and unique about its cultural heritage.
- Children, youth and seniors are encouraged to participate in cultural events.
- Citizens are part of larger regional cultural events.

Group Response – Strengths:

- 4th July parade
- summer concerts
- 4-H center
- County Fair
- children activity (library story time, recreation, youth, sports)
- seniors program (trips)
- wildlife
- open space
- Historical Society
- library summer “reading rocks”
- walking trails
- Conservation Commission
- Christmas holiday parties
- Halloween
- Easter egg hunt
- ice skating – winter carnival at 4-H center
- Cabin Feuer dance

- firemen's breakfast
- library book sale
- theater group
- ballfields – downtown, dump
- basketball – men & women
- adult education
- Dodge's store/front porch/ice cream
- Community Church activities
- Ken Marvell tree farm
- Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts
- Little People's Depot Discovery Classes
- forestry committee
- volunteers/fire and medical
- Molly Stark Cannon
- Joe English Hill
- New Boston Air Force Base
- New Boston Bulletin

Group Response – Weaknesses:

- funding
- losing space
- village/country side conflict (keeping village attractive, concerns for traffic, parking noise, walking paths)
- traffic – Depot Street bridge only way
- limited gym space
- athletic field space limited
- future of downtown ball field (bleachers need repaired)
- don't advertise all the things happening in town
- need to establish a community center for activities
- need a recreation center
- challenge for things for teens to do
- need welcoming committee (newcomers club)
- challenge to meet neighbors
- if kids not in school, hard to get involved
- culture of town not apparent or as welcoming
- losing identity – loss of culture – bedroom community

Vision for the Future:

- on-line registration for recreation
- ways to draw community together
- village district – shops, coffee houses, etc.
- promote local business
- welcoming to new people
- pedestrian friendly for village
- keep our strengths
- bike trail
- promote recreation opportunities
- establish swimming/town pool

- establish community center and recreation
- focus on teens
- have middle school and high school
- Dodge's Store
- teen activities to participate in community
- skate board park
- cultural education in schools
- Historical Society for youth

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. communication – know what is happening/available in community – welcoming new people
2. community center/recreation, teens, adults, seniors-everyone
3. outdoor opportunities – protect and promote
4. manage growth and still plan for recreational and cultural activities – Dodge's Store and Porch and ice cream
5. village is important, how do we protect/plan for it?

8. Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Facilitator: Rob Graybill

Recorder: Mica Stark

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Deborah MacDonald, Cheryl Christner, Tom Sullivan, Brenda Jones, Pam Ilg, John Gingrich, John Wawrzyniak, Jillian Smith, John Royce, Mark Siemiesz, Deb Claffey, Brad Johnson

Statement of Purpose:

Natural resources and historical assets of a community contribute significantly to the quality of life for residents and play an integral part in defining community character. Streams, rivers, walking trails, working farms, forest, clean air, historic buildings and bridges, wildlife and open land help to determine a community's personality and contribute to the everyday pleasures of community life. A sustainable community recognizes the importance of these assets and takes appropriate measures to assure their continuance.

Statements a community should consider:

- The community has recently inventoried its natural base.
- There is broad community interest and participation in protecting key natural resource and historical assets.
- Steps have been taken to provide long-term land protection to assure functioning natural resource systems.
- The local economy and population are putting stress on those natural resource systems.
- There are ways to increase the resilience of the local natural resource systems to allow them to respond to diverse or changing conditions, such as _____.
- Current systems, such as waste management, are handled in a way that preserves the integrity of natural systems in the community without damaging the integrity of natural systems elsewhere.
- Existing businesses are environmentally sound.
- Public water sources are protected.
- Some of these natural resource features are unique or in some way important regionally or statewide.

- Natural resource and open space contribute to the economic vitality of the community.
- Critical resources are being negatively impacted by competing land uses.
- Steps have been taken to establish regulatory controls and promote voluntary actions to assure the continued availability of natural resources.
- The community has addressed regional natural resource features and issues with surrounding communities.

Group Response – Strengths:

- river protected by (?) NH
- conservation land protected (many areas with easement)
- village area (old time feel)
- large lot sizes
- stonewalls
- mandatory recycling
- relative quiet (depends where you live)
- when land out of current use > % goes to land conservation
- no street lights
- town folks use things
- new Howe Bridge - beautiful
- quiet (can hear animals – peepers, birds)
- school >natural playground (3rd grade recycling presentation)
- Bailey Pond
- canoeing down river
- natural environment, strong in New Boston – examples of most items in handout
- good, strong environment/conservation groups (4+)
- working farms (postcard, birds in the street)
- meadows
- beaver ponds
- Joe English Hill protected
- ballfield
- blue sky
- historic homes (banks look like houses)
 - mix houses (big, small)
- topography of town (hills, valley, river)
- no stop lights
- no M
- probably no major highway thru town
- gazebo

Group Response – Challenges:

- Mill Pond
- new development – negative impact natural environment
- clear cutting/lots timber for new development
- better communication about assets, environment strengths
- traffic and noisy (gravel trucks – time construction) Bedford Highway
- air traffic (MHT)
- 2 acre building lot (too small)
- lack of control growth plan (builders too much freedom)

- lack parameters, control, enforce
- too many building permits
- folks not staying (temp)
- lack awareness
- thru trucks (more restrictions)
- roadside trash
- road speeds too high (lack enforcement) dangerous walking, no sidewalks/shoulders
- no inventory of natural resources
- lack of leash law
- ballfield grandstands (aesthetics, safety)
 - who owns? Town should own
- understand gun laws (communicate)
- is water clean enough?
 - river is
 - different perceptions
- water table impacted by new development
- anticipated new development (roads, wells, trees) impact will be huge
- Goffstown schools don't match quality elementary
- more lawns lead to problems with nitrate, phosphor
- protected area around wells where septic cant be (150 ft. Hollis) (75 ft New Boston)
- cluster homes (we don't have) preserves open space, wildlife
- not enough places for teens/play

Vision for the Future:

- more controls on developers
- no more building permits
- purchase as much conservation possible (make available to all)
- keep all our strengths
- how create affordable housing (cluster housing, 55+ yr old community)
- expand trail system
- clean up roads and rivers
- encouraging landowners to keep their large parcels (educate on right/wrong way to do so)
- protecting wildlife corridors
- preserve historic places and buildings
- for every \$400k house = 1 affordable housing
- communication of natural resources to new residents (map with trails and conservation land)
- share information with newbies
- community TV
- website with more information
- conduct an inventory
- quaint
- preserve town center
- more and better playground for all ages
 - something for teenagers (active)
 - program
 - area designated for them
 - park (benches and trails)

- horse trail/access
- don't pave all roads
- no traffic/street lights

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. guidelines for development
 - lot size
 - number lots
 - number building permits
 - keep quaint, clean, rural
 - cluster housing
2. increase open space
3. more recreational areas
 - playgrounds
 - grandstand
 - swim hole-damn/Mill Pond
 - access to marketing and information about
4. inventory about natural resources
5. preservation
 - historical
 - stonewalls
 - farms
 - animals/wildlife
 - village
 - night sky
 - forests
 - river
 - horse trails

9. Economic Vitality

Facilitator: Gabi VanTassell Recorder: Irene Baudreau Spokesperson: Laura Bernard
 Participants: Joyce Sullivan, Erin MacDonald, Jon Brooks, Bernadette Stephens, Laura Bernard, Pat Jennings,
 Nancy Scopa, Deborah Scannell, Lee Allen, Sarah Chapman, Laura Peach, Michael George, Donald Grosso

Statement of Purpose:

The private, public and non-profit sectors are all important in attracting new investment and in developing new businesses that suit the character of the community and meet its needs. The need to sustain successful workplaces is an important factor to the health of a community. The more often money circulates within the community before leaving, the more the community benefits.

A healthy community includes access to a variety of environmentally sound businesses, industries, and institutions that provide reasonable wages and benefits to workers, engage in family-friendly policies, provide workers with opportunities to develop marketable skills, and contribute to the overall well-being of the community.

Statements a community should consider:

- A variety of businesses, industries and institutions make up the economic base of the community and the region, such as _____.
- We have a diverse economic base. No one sector or one employer dominates; there is a wide variety of sectors and employers.
- Existing businesses are environmentally sound.
- There are locally available educational opportunities to provide residents with skills that match the needs of local businesses.
- Local government works well with the local businesses to enhance the economic vitality of the community.
- There are business services lacking in the community, such as _____.
- There are many types of jobs available to residents in terms of security, wage levels, skill levels, and benefits, examples _____.
- Community members patronize downtown businesses on a regular basis and value the local businesses.
- Wages allow the majority of the population to enjoy a reasonable lifestyle.
- Local government supports and promotes local businesses.

Group Response – Strengths:

- state highways
- Dodge's store
- small businesses
- residents have money to spend
- entrepreneur spirit
- networking and marketing local talent
- local cafes
- fostering sole proprietor in town and their support
- campground
- doctors and dentist offices
- lots of businesses close together
- natural resources/undeveloped land
- farmer's market
- Apple Barn/attractive and draws outside visitors
- Hunter's store/outdoor lessons
- real estate offices
- County Fair
- pizza store/video
- hardware store
- potential labor pool of educated people
- good location/close to major airport, proximity to larger cities and highways
- ambient for employees to live in
- zoning restrictions for commercial, agricultural and residential areas

Group Response – Challenges:

- zoning restrictions for commercial, agricultural and residential areas
- lack of zoning

- Master Plan insufficient commercial and industrial zoning
- lack of vision
- missing business affects elderly ability to stay in town
- reacting vs. acting
- control over development
- missing leadership
- lack of commission to attract businesses in town
- lack of “start-up” support for small businesses
- imbalance of residential vs. commercial
- lack of transportation
- meeting place/easy access
- missing juice bar
- missing place for teenagers
- missing a “Goffstown Main Street”
- lack of bike and pedestrian paths
- lack of downtown parking
- no business directory

Vision for the Future:

- youth center
- business incubator center (e.g. Manchester Millyard)
- public high school
- place to work in town
- center of town circumference enlarged
- walking trail system thru-out town
- businesses help New Boston growth while enhancing New Boston atmosphere
- bed and breakfast type businesses/hotels
- focus on common/diverse events (all ages)
- develop New Boston to resemble downtown Peterborough
- art co-op
- change name to “New Peterborough”
- develop own identity
- 100 acre development with easy access
- revised Master Plan
- controlled growth to preserve beauty
- invite industry into New Boston that will support elderly
- work experience for young adults mentoring and wages
- Joe English party
- support “good industries” (environment, aesthetically pleasing, resourceful, engaging, servicing, fun, profitable)
- pub/brewery

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. increase business/tax base
 - Manchester Millyard
 - “good industries” commission to attract businesses
2. downtown vision
 - New Peterborough

- walking paths
- transportation/parking
- 3. zoning/revised Master Plan
 - protective
 - expansive
- 4. attracting people to come to New Boston and serving people who live here
 - all ages
 - elderly housing/assisted living
 - recreation/youth center
 - B&B inns
 - small bookstore/tea room
 - art co-op
- 5. business support system
 - incubator and directory
 - Chamber of Commerce

10. Growth and Development

Facilitator: Kerry LaPointe Recorder: Wayne Blassberg Spokesperson: not noted
 Participants: Jay Marden, Fred Hayes, Brandy Mitroff, Lynn Wawrzyniak, Sandi VanScoyoc, Jamie Swigley, Marcel LaFlamme, Peter Maloney, Michael Swenson, Robert Todd, Frank Welton, Scott McCaskill, Don Chapman, Rhonda Clark, Scott Vaughan

Statement of Purpose:

A community can more effectively manage its growth through the prudent use of local zoning ordinances and planning regulations that guide how land is divided, used, and developed. These tools allow the community to regulate the development of residential areas, commercial districts, and the town center. These are key considerations in managing growth while maintaining community character.

Another important factor in the development of a healthy community is the diversity of housing. This encompasses availability, affordability, and location, all of which affect the lives of community members, especially the elderly, disabled and low-income families.

Statements a community should consider:

- The community's zoning and planning regulations are updated regularly and reflect a broad spectrum of residents' vision of the community in 5, 10 and 20 years.
- There is adequate affordable and rental housing for the elderly and disabled.
- There is adequate rental housing in the community.
- Land use regulations and land protection efforts are preserving an adequate amount of open space in the community.
- Current zoning regulations favor protecting the character of key sections of the community over new commercial development.
- There is adequate housing for young families and/or single-parent families.
- Our zoning regulations are designed to counteract sprawl.
- Municipal government works well with landowners to promote land protection and sustainable development while respecting private property rights.

- Residential housing is planned so that negative effects on traffic, public schools, sewer and water systems, and wildlife habitats are minimized.
- Areas of natural beauty and historic importance are well protected by zoning regulations and land protection efforts.
- Our community commits financial resources toward protecting valuable natural resources.

Group Response – Strengths:

- adequate undeveloped land
- minimum lot sizes
- proactive in having a Master Plan
- good set of zoning regulations
- good formal review process
- good openness of downtown and easily accessible
- concerned for historic preservation
- looks like a place you want to live “curb appeal”
- under the radar
- beautiful natural resources
- likes atmosphere of dirt roads
- property appreciation and equity
- hub and spoke community
- limited commercial
- school is the center of the community
- just one school
- safe
- strong support for land conservation
- forward, innovative, progressive departmental thinking
- town agencies work together for the good of the town
- town newspaper provides growth and development information
- family sense of community
- people seem to care
- relatively affordable housing as compared to surrounding towns
- bulletin board at Dodge’s store

Group Response – Challenges:

- zoning bylaws need to be more flexible and housing needs to be more affordable
- more handicapped access
- eroding community spirit
- lack of a town meeting
- personal involvement is declining % wise
- lack of informed voters
- concern for future tax liability
- Planning Board is overwhelmed
- planning process needs more teeth and more professional guidance
- not enough melding of residential and commercial tax base
- village area needs to have specific standard zoning
- center is congested
- no economic development center in town

- sidewalk that nobody cleans
- not enough pathways/walkways
- “component sheet” 2,3,4,6,7,9,10,11 not being done
- pursue aesthetic commercial zoning standards
- growing to rapidly to absorb responsibility
- size of the town relative to growth rate = high impact
- zoning is not designed to counteract sprawl
- services for people need to be considered as well as bottom line
- not enough safe walkways going to school and to the post office

Vision for the Future:

- require all future subdivisions to include playground, recreational areas, conservation and possible school and fire sites
- need to maintain a reasonable and affordable tax rate
- Bedford Road back to dirt
- increase in school population may dilute sense of community
- need diversity in housing
- safe footpath within 2 miles of town center
- town should start buying land to preserve sense of community
- start buying land to develop clean businesses outside of town
- increase minimum building lot size
- green space (adequate) and linked (wildlife and farm life)
- detailed growth plan
- smaller minimum lot size in certain areas
- detail breakdown of costs for your tax bill
- start planning for municipal water and sewer
- no change to minimize size
- running footpath along river
- strict growth plan that works

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. a plan to create, preserve and maintain a network of open green space and conservation land throughout the town
2. institute an economic development plan in order to share the tax burden between residential and commercial
3. grow the village center commercially and maintain the sense of center without destroying its character
4. reinstitute the town meeting format so the voters can make better informal decisions on critical infrastructure issues
5. better planning and control to accomplish all of the above

11. Transportation

Facilitator: Carol Hess

Recorder: Anna Clark

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Lisa Holmes, Sheri Maloney, Jessica Vaughan, Connie Swenson, Floyd Guyette, Bob Dever, Robert Shigley, Candy Woodbury, Kim Burkhamer, Mary Frances Barone, Molly White, Shawn Fish, Ed Wood

Statement of Purpose:

A community's strategic location and economic importance bring many people to live, work, and shop here. Roads get most of us where we need and want to go, and most people drive their own cars for convenience. However, more vehicles sharing the roads results in increased highway maintenance, air pollution and traffic congestion. Alternatives to automobile travel include pedestrians and bicycle travel and bus and rail transportation.

Statements a community should consider:

- Our current road system is adequate and meets the needs of the residents and visitors.
- The use of traffic controls (signs, lights, speed limits, police, etc) is adequate throughout residential and commercial areas
- It is easy to get around on foot and by bicycle in our community.
- The community encourages car pooling, and helps make it work for people by providing information and accessible parking areas.
- Parking is adequate in the commercial areas.
- Tradeoffs, such as maintenance, pollution, and congestion are considered when widening main roads or building new roads.
- Public transportation would ease some of the traffic problems.
- Residents and visitors would use public transportation if it was available.

Group Response – Strengths:

- decent highway crew who cares
- good recreational bike paths
- major thruways are in good shape
- clean roads – no trash
- road committee – make
- centrally located village stores/business services
- false pride in way the town looks
- dirt roads are favored by residents
- dirt roads keep traffic going slow and reduces traffic
- slow traffic speeds promote neighborly communications/interactions
- proximity to airport
- good network of roads
- no stoplights
- all roads empty into town
- nice walking paths for those who want alternatives
- good class 6 roads
- Middle Branch Footbridge is attractive and convenient
- rail trail is nice
- trail maps for town are available at town hall

- river is a recreational transportation line
- relative to other places, very little traffic

Group Response – Challenges:

- River Road needs repairs (Rt. 13)
- keeping hilly roads clean and passable for school buses
- volume and speed of traffic makes it difficult to maintain dirt roads
- air traffic is heavy, noisy
- no way for non-drivers to get around
- no alternative means of getting across town – have to go thru downtown
- no sidewalks
- sidewalks are difficult to maintain in winter (in village)
- challenge to walk where there are no sidewalks/ill-maintained sidewalks
- dirt roads wash out and hurt the river ecosystem
- speed is too high/fast
- not enough parking downtown
- backing out of Dodge's is dangerous
- crosswalk from library to Dodge's is in blind spot to those backing out of Dodge's
- downtown has geographic limits as far as what can be done
- trash on side of road
- pullout onto Rt. 13 from Old Coach is dangerous
- congestion of downtown
- intersection by bank is dangerous and confusing
- coming out of transfer station is dangerous
- Bedford Road is dangerous, people drive too fast, too curvy
- no speed limit signs on McCurdy and other roads
- all types of signs are a problem
- crosswalks are not clearly marked
- spotty enforcement
- inadequate stop signs in downtown
- hospitals don't provide transportation to New Boston
- inadequate parking at recreational areas, ponds
- no elderly transportation
- transportation for teenagers to Goffstown, Milford
- difficulty communicating transportation services available
- bus to Goffstown Area High School is late in returning to New Boston
- bus gets at Goffstown Area High School too early; students get picked up too early in a.m.

Vision for the Future:

not noted

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. parking/downtown congestion
2. road safety for walkers, bikers, non-motorized, animals
3. transportation for non-drivers and the conservation minded
4. enforcement of speed and traffic laws
5. balance between convenience and character of roads

Saturday Morning

Everyone reassembled bright and early Saturday morning at New Boston Central School, where we were greeted by hot coffee and tea and delicious baked goods. There were a few folks there who had not been present Friday evening and they soon felt the enthusiasm of the rest of the group. Similarly, a few members of the Friday night small groups were missing. However, most of the people were stalwarts who had signed on for both days.

The 11 easels from the small groups of the night before were arrayed across the front of the rooms, each bearing a list of the five key issues for that topic area. Our working day began with short presentations from a member of each of the groups, explaining their group's list. The entire group worked together to evaluate and refine this list. After some discussion, 8 key issues emerged as important to study for the future of New Boston. This list is presented below along with some of the related ideas that were mentioned.

Key Issues

1. Transportation and Road Safety
2. Local Economy and Tax Base
3. Citizen Participation
4. Lifelong Education
5. Human/Recreational Services
6. Village and Community Character Projects
7. Preservation of Natural Resources
8. Planning, Zoning and Growth

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

After a short mid-morning break, participants each chose which of the 8 key issues they would like to discuss further and broke into small groups accordingly. Each topic attracted enough people to form a small working group.

The task of each group was to think about problems that existed in each area and then to brainstorm possible solutions/answers to the issue identified. We did that by thinking out aloud for half an hour or so about “problems” and “goals”. Then we suggested solutions, from practical to fanciful to idealistic. The next step was to evaluate the reality of each possible solution/project using the following impact/feasibility grid.

IMPACT:
How much will it matter?

High

Moderate

Low

High

Moderate

Low

FEASIBILITY: How possible is it in our community?

Using the grid above, we copied each of our proposed solutions onto sticky notes. For each solution, the group decided together what the feasibility and impact of the solution would be. Then we placed the sticky note in the appropriate box.

Based on the grid, each group chose three solutions and wrote them up as proposals on their easel to be presented to the large group. Some groups chose only proposals with high impact/feasibility ratings, while others chose projects from a variety of ratings. Small projects, which were highly feasible, but of low impact, were favored by those who wanted to start small and accomplish something quickly. Long term, difficult projects had advocates who were willing to commit to longer struggles with high rewards. Many of the groups proposed a combination of proposals. Verbatim notes from each of the groups were presented below.

Key Issue # 1 Transportation/Road Safety

Facilitator: Dave Smith

Recorder: Brett McLarnou

Spokesperson: Ken Clinton

Participants: Sandi VanScoyoc, Ken Clinton, Katie Kachavos, Randy Parker, Kim DiPietro, Howard Towne

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- major byways
- paving vs. non-paving
- downtown flow
- pedestrian issues
- transportation plans focus on car, not individual
- negative impact of the motor vehicle on the character of the town
- through traffic in the village
- poor enforcement of speed limits
- town resents the police department enforcement of the speed limits
- not enough tax money for community projects

Possible Solutions:

- possible bypass route for congested areas
- get professional help in planning
- development of sidewalk plan encompassing a mile from town
- maintaining sidewalks in the winter
- system of walking paths
- sidewalks/walkways within development
- mini town centers
- enforcement of speed limits (especially downtown)
- neighborhood speed watchers
- traffic speed marker/monitor/sign to get people to slow down themselves
- move turn from River Road into intersection with an island (90° turn to slow traffic)
- portable speed bumps
- keep dirt roads wherever possible
- keep developments closer to population centers where roads are already paved
- don't straighten roads to slow people down
- develop solution for downtown parking
- underground parking
- research regional solutions to transportation problems
- weekly bussing
- expand village without changing it
- walkway from post office to village
- community/senior carpool/ride share program

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- neighborhood speed watches
- portable speed bumps

- walkway from post office to village
- get professional help in planning
- maintain sidewalks in the winter
- research and support regional solutions to transportation problems
- enforcement of speed limits (especially downtown)

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- move turn from River Road into intersection with an island (90° turn to slow traffic)
- develop solution for downtown parking

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- possible bypass re: for congested areas
- keep dirt roads wherever possible
- underground parking

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- traffic speed monitor
- expand village without changing it
- sidewalks/walkway within developments
- system of walking paths (also noted as moderate impact/moderate feasibility)

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- development of sidewalk plan encompassing a mile from town

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- keep developments close to population centers where roads are already paved

Low Impact/High Feasibility

- weekly bussing

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- community/senior carpool

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- don't straighten roads to slow people down

Key Issue #2 Local Economy and Tax Base

Facilitator: Carol Hess

Recorder: Anna Clark

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Fred Hayes, Gail Parker, Gerry Perron, Pete Ryder, Jim Sawyer, Ed Wood, Richard Harvey, Melissa Harvey, Lee Allen

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- only tax base is residential
- small commercial tax base – a few stores, a restaurant, etc
- few local jobs
- tension between development and quaintness
- need to grow, but not to detriment of good qualities of town

- some want no growth
- attracting business that's consistent with town character
- difficult for small business to succeed because of lack of accessibility, i.e. roads
- center of town is not amenable to traditional model of business development
- seasons are issue for viability of business
- New Boston can't attract businesses that would contribute significantly to tax base
- a few places for new businesses in town
- business incubator
- communicating of what's available in town
- residential housing that contributes to tax base
- difficult to start a business
- multi-family housing, high density that contributes to tax base more than individual houses
- industrial park – Rte. 114
- Fanueil Hall type commercial development
- cement barns or central location where businesses can enter
- business incubator – multiple offices clumped together
- sharing information thru directory, website to indicate whose doing what in town, to identify businesses in town, to identify talent in town

Possible Solutions:

- looking for business to locate here who won't be hindered by lack of accessibility
- need services, restaurants, interior decorators, etc
- consulting/Main Street Program
- capitalizing on natural resources/river to promote a broader economic/commercial center
- map with businesses solutions
- develop traffic patterns that promote healthy economy
- need a sewer system in downtown to encourage businesses like restaurants
- consider no new business and continue paying high taxes
- light industrial development location
- look at zoning restrictions that deter business development
- revenue-generating open space (golf courses)
- bottom of Byam Road for possible commercial development
- encouraging land developers to mix commercial/residential uses
- town employee whose job it is to facilitate business creation and help those go thru process to open a business here
- hire consultant/committee to identify business development zone for inclusion in Master Plan (considering natural resource and character of town)
- provide assistance, outreach and encouragement to people wanting to start new business (town business coordinator, website, brochure)
- explore feasibility of locating retirement community

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- paid outside professional consultant on Main Street development, commercial/industrial development (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)

- capitalizing on natural resources/river to promote broader commercial center
- identifying businesses that are compatible with infrastructure limitations
- Main Street program
- employee to coordinate and assist business growth and development
- multi-family housing that contributes to the tax base (sized to fit community) 55+ planned community
- looking at zoning restrictions that deter development

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- providing services for people in town, restaurants, interior decorators
- light industrial development location
- industrial park – Rte. 114 & Rte. 77 N
- bottom of Byam Road for possible commercial development

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- develop traffic patterns that promote healthy economy
- encourage land developers to mix commercial/residential uses

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- communication sharing information thru directory, website

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- revenue generating open space (golf course)
- cement barns or central location where businesses can cluster

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- Fanueil Hall type commercial development
- sewer system in downtown to encourage business especially restaurant
- business incubator multiple offices clumped together

Low Impact/High Feasibility

- map with local businesses
- consider no new businesses and continue paying high taxes

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Key Issue # 3 Citizen Participation

Facilitator: Rob Graybill

Recorder: Mica Stark

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: R. Moody, John Bradfield, Joyce Welton, Herbert Elliott, Verna Elliott, Dona Fairbairn, Arlene Dodge, Dan MacDonald, Brenda Jones, Gordon Carlstrom, Frances Towne, Lyn Lombard, Martin McLarnon, Brenda Lind, Sacha DeMatteis

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- community – how get information out to residents?

- how keep people coming to volunteer, get beyond core- how to get non-volunteer to volunteer?
 - go back to town meeting
 - information available in hard copy at library
- need for gathering places, personal touch – connections
- what motivates people to volunteer
- we need to ID what motivates people
- what are the inhibitors/barriers? (for why people don't volunteer)
- clicks can deter people from volunteering
- people need to be asked > personal touch
- information about what services are volunteer based (% of services)
- volunteers vs. participation and leadership
 - need system to develop leaders

Possible Solutions:

- use the Internet to create a forum to share information about projects, volunteer opportunities, calendar events
- central location to get information
- database, skill exchange > community, volunteer assets + needs
- packet for new members of town committee (input onmembers)
- service credits (\$ vs. non \$) recognition and rewards
- information out about volunteer of month
- big fuss (annual event) over stellar volunteers – without intimidating newbies
- get volunteers from across groups together (annual event)
- volunteer coordinator (paid) in town
- infrastructure and coordination (leadership development)
- outside Dodge's > central location – board, cabinet = volunteer opportunity
- lifer mentor/buddy with new residents
- welcome packet for new residents
- research: what makes some local groups work well
- publicize success/volunteer stories make it personal
- bring original leaders together (for leader training)
- UNH + ? for workshop on lead training
 - how to develop the future leaders
 - manage volunteer base
- hold volunteer forum, that's fun
- central body/person organize, coordination of needs and opportunities
- volunteer fair
- Internet (forums, information) content
 - vehicle – internet, packets, boards, locations
- improve internet and content and capabilities to facilitate citizen participation
 - interactive on line forms
 - informative
- central coordination of volunteer needs and opportunities
- leadership network and cultivation
 - for vm

- mentoring
- training
- collaborating
- needs database
- leadership forum/training
- information packet (ex. Welcome packet)
- event>success + recognition

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- need to make it fun (Volunteer Fair)
- use Internet to get out information, get out vote, get volunteers
- needs database
- central location for information
- publicize success (also noted as Moderate Impact/High feasibility)

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- volunteer coordination-person (also noted as high impact/high feasibility)
- “lifer”/”newbie” mentor-buddy program
- interesting fresh packet for new residents (both Internet and hard copy)
- develop mentoring ‘alternative numbers’
- research other groups/ideas to investigate success to see what works
- leadership forum/training

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- skills database

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- Big Fuss event

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- rewards, service credits

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Key Issue #4 Lifelong Education

Facilitator: Paula Bellemore

Recorder: Anne Dignard

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Brian Irwin, Cheryl Christner, Cyndie Wilson, Lynn Wawrzyniak, Dan Rothman, Eileen Mahoney, Pat Jennings, Jamie Shigley, Jess Willard, Scott Hunter, Polly Brendle, Bill Brendle

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- need lifelong education
- need environment to promote the lifelong learning pre-school through seniors

Possible Solutions:

- identify the talent base we have in this town
- identify places for the education to continue
- 4-H center/community center
- determine needs of the people
- survey of interests and skills/talents
- outreach to newcomers and potential volunteers
- explore prospects for new school
- have a temporary final decision on new school facilities
- transition activities for parents with their students to Goffstown
- find the talent and encourage volunteerism
- organized board of volunteers (volunteer action center)
- establish where the need for volunteers is
- community mentor program
- Middle School study committee/survey
- lifelong learning collaborative
- school get more involved in adult education
- study economic feasibility
- be more committed to Goffstown and Dunbarton
- consider possibilities in other areas/districts
- get volunteers (specifically for Historical Society)
- nature education area/facilities/center
- needs assessment survey
- collaboration between 4-H and town (sharing facilities)
- define available spaces that the town has
- volunteer action committee (community mentor program, needs assessment survey, identify talent base, workshops)
- lifelong learning resource center
- establish nature center
- hold an open forum for middle school transition

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- direct school board to establish middle school study committee
 - commit to Goffstown and Dunbarton
- lifelong learning resource committee (opportunities for pre-school/seniors)

- needs assessment
- find talent and recruit
- outreach to new residents
- community mentor program
- workshop on parenting, knitting, lifeskills
- assess available spaces: 4-H, community center, library, recreation center, volunteer action committee

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

High Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- hold an open forum for middle school transition

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- establish nature center (Audubon, 4-H, PWA, Conservation Commission)

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Key Issue #5 Human/Recreational Services

Facilitator: not noted

Recorder: not noted

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Scott Dana, Dot Marden, Kathy Bradfield, Deborah Macdonald, Erin MacDonald, Mary Frances Barone, Connie Swenson, Rhoda Shaw Clark, Myrna Vashaw, Gary Filaault, Jacki Filaault, Kristen deMatteis, Jacqueline Siemiesz, Woody Woodland, Barb Woodline, Kathy Ryder, Tom Joseph, Sharon Cowen, Matthew Kennerson, Bob Feshinger, Lee Brown

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- a center of facilities
- access to all ages
- structured and unstructured activities
- awareness and promotion
- various activity levels for all ages
- ample facilities or center
- facilities and services that address human recreational and social needs

Possible Solutions:

- building that has athletic, theater, classroom space and social space
- have a focus on purchasing land for building
- better advertising for services (ex. senior citizen's lunch)
- better access for youth/everyone to the facilities
- welcoming packets for newcomers to know what the town has
- some type of visitors center
- ideas how to better advertise
- personalized reach out efforts
- old library (if new is passed) would be a good building to use
- website and bulletin board where people can offer their services and barter for others
- foster awareness
- make people feel welcome and draw them in
- personal contact to newcomers and others
- volunteers to help make the personal contact and time
- generate volunteers to help reach out
- town channel to advertise services and facilities
- school projects to get the kids more involved and helping them do more
- discreet bound publication or a survey that encompasses social and awareness of services for everyone
- teen leadership group
- list of new people and things to send out
- a need for a "super" coordinator
- incentives program with a list of things to do
- get teens involved by flyers or notices
- respond to teen requests for involvement
- get the teens to learn from the older folks and the older folks to reach out to the teens
- getting back to one location for information and organizations
- a town resource center with all of the information
- a town human resources/services coordinator
- change or improve town hall voice mail service
- infrastructure for newcomers out reach with neighborhood representation
- help senior citizens to get rides and transportation to services

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- multi-use community center
- human services and activities coordinator
- get teens involved – flyers and notices
- teen leadership group
- make people feel welcome and draw them in (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)
- volunteers to help make the personal contacts and time (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)
- personal contact to newcomers and others (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)

- infrastructure for newcomer outreach with neighborhood representative
- personalized reach out efforts

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- transportation to services and facilities
- better access for youth, everyone to the facilities
- advertising and communicating services
- website and bulletin board where people can offer and barter services
- town cable channel to advertise services and facilities
- discrete bound publication or a survey that encompasses social and awareness of services for everyone

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- list of new people and things to send out to organizations
- incentives program for participation and reach out
- ideas how to better advertise
- welcoming package for newcomers
- better advertising for services (senior services lunch)

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- make people feel welcome and draw them in (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)
- volunteers to help make the personal contacts and time (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)
- personal contact to newcomers and others (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- generate volunteers to help reach out
- school projects to get the kids more involved and helping them do more
- get the teens to learn from the older folks and the older folks to meet with the teens

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Key Issue # 6 Village and Community Character Projects

Facilitator: Gabi VanTassell

Recorder: Irene Baudreau

Spokesperson: Scott Vaughan

Participants: Scott Vaughan, Jessica Vaughan, Dianne Sawyer, Stephen Peach, Tim Cady, Sherry Elliott, Mary Koon, Burton Reynolds, Janet Nixon, Mary Lanzilloti, Sarah Chapman, Laura Bernard, Marcy Morton, Laura Peach, Molly Peach

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- too many roads
- Dodge's store/porch
- traffic issues
 - parking
 - getting out of Dodge's
 - triangle by bank
 - walking thru town
- divert thru traffic away from center of town
- how to grow village with services, expand village and keep character
- keep it user/visitor friendly (central parking)
- expand village center
- preserve historical buildings
- 2nd floor of Dodge's store
- gym
- historic street lights/district
- architecture of village, preserve historical buildings
- environment
- expanded business opportunities need regulations/planning control
- support small business owners to preserve small town character, publicize actions of businesses that preserve character
- guidelines to accommodate business under umbrella of village character, i.e. "hidden" Rite-Aid
- bike lane or walkways in town "radial connections"
- preservation district well defined
- keep preservation of historical buildings with owners

Possible Solutions:

- safety of pedestrians year round
- divert heavy traffic away from center of town/traffic flow
- recreation path from town to post office and have parking area with kiosk to show what's in town and where its located with trolley to town
- define historic district, preservation project, village districts
- highway design to control traffic, pedestrian friendly
- "Main Street" type development but preserve village character
- cement barns with 11 acres of land
 - LCHIP funding
 - historical significance
 - passive recreation

- community center
- close to elementary school
- include barns in village center
- increase role of river in village center
- radial connections – bridge

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- re-route traffic away from village
- stone barns – village usage (library, community center, youth center, LCHIP funding)
- traffic thru village, highway design/road enhancements
- radial paths-walkways in and around village

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- village connection to post office via river/bridge
- hub parking

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- define (village) historic/preservation district

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- “Main Street” type development

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- think river

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Key Issue #7 Preservation of Natural Resources

Facilitator: Gerry Fairbairn Recorder: Deanna Powell Spokesperson: not noted
 Participants: Kim Burkhamer, Ken Lombard, David Woodbury, Frank Welton, Susan Woodward, Robert Shigley, Debra Claffey, Bob Todd, Pam Ilg, Sue Fehsinger, Lorraine Miller, Maddy Perron, Kelly Kennerson, Bin Clark, Amy Daniels, Beth Widmayer, Philip Lavallee

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- breaking up woodland corridors
- chopping up the land for subdivision
- need an inventory of special spaces
- preserve cultural history
- open space plan? Need one
- need completed plan
- FLESA & REPP
- worry about run-off from building (water)
- water quantity and quality
- preserve open fields
- light and noise pollution
- build a resource to raise money to buy land
- build awareness for multiple ways to preserve space
- scenic sights and roads and vistas
- expansion of surrounding towns on New Boston impact
- I-93 expansion
- regional problem
- town cut-through to 114
- maintain gravel roads
- paved roads loose stone walls
- speeders on paved roads
- loss of horse trails
- complex rules and regulations prohibit
- balance between common sense and regulations
- need coordination between different interest groups
- fragmentation is happening faster than our preservation of open spaces and natural resources
- insuring community between government and town with tracking station
- need to be aware of 4-H grounds insure community

Possible Solutions:

- collaborate with other towns
- inventory potential spaces (Plan NH) to protect cultural, special spaces, dirt roads, stone walls
- investigate money resources available
- people resources to work on committees
- impact of losing spaces that may be developed
- build money incentive for keeping open space for landowners (tax burden)
- look at other towns for systems that are successful
- foster stewardship in the young children, utilize school

- incorporate open space plan into Master Plan
- develop plan for development
- increase awareness and exposure to what we have to foster participation (bus tours, websites, brochures)
- bring in UNH Extension resources in for education and workshops (dirt roads vs. paved)
- encourage exploration of your own property to include an inventory
- involve teens – GPS (mapping)
- communicate what we already have done – website
- develop school projects
- preservation ordinance?
- must have incentive for land owners to permanently protect land
- more tax incentive than current use
- significant change to tax structure (state-wide)
- teens involve organizations, scouts, recreation, library, Berlin education
- GPS orientation, scavenger hunts – GEO cache
- preservation ordinances
 - historic buildings
 - scenic roads
 - water ways

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- significant change to tax structure
- must have incentive for land owners to permanently protect land
- \$ incentive to keep open space for landowners
- more tax incentive than current use
- inventory of cultural and natural spaces (dirt roads/stone walls)
- ID impact of losing spaces that may be developed

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- develop plan for development
- incorporate open space plan into Master Plan
- look at other towns that have been successful
- historic buildings
- scenic roads
- water ways
- preservation ordinance
- investigate dollars federal resources available
- people (resources) to work on committees

High Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- exposure to what we have/sponsored hikes on trails
- increase awareness bus trips
- collaborate with other towns

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- bring in UNH resources for education and workshops
- encourage awareness of what Historical Society has

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- involve teens (GPS, school projects)
- Geo cache – Berlin education
- fostering stewardship in youth – utilize school
- teens (scouts, recreation, library) organizations

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- exploration of your own property to include in inventory

Key Issue #8 Planning/Zoning/Growth

Facilitator: Kerry LaPointe

Recorder: Mike Powell

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Jay Marson, Deborah Vlass-Scammell, Shawn Fish, David Ely, Brenda Robinson, John Wawrzyniak, Brandy Mitroff, Eric Scoullar, Brad Johnson, Dave Craig, John Royce, David Elliott, Gene Kelly, Bonnie Koch, Willard O'Dodge, Travis Daniels, Mark Siemiesz, Nancy Scopa, Tammi Wood, Peter Maloney

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- leadership
 - town needed to get fiscal “house in order”
 - need vision for growth – next 5-10-20 years
 - tools and methods to guide town
- housing affordability
 - isolation - transportation
 - life long residents/priced out
 - property tax
 - SB2 impacts (lack of town meeting)
 - Elderly feel alienated
 - Cluster housing/convenient
- zoning
 - difficult/impractical
 - set asides of land in subdivision
 - linked green space
 - minimum lot size
 - economic vitality
 - accommodate growth/balance/manage

- be open to commercial uses (limited in R-A spaces)
 - little Peterborough vs. manufacturing – good businesses that serve people of all ages
 - people moved here to avoid industry
 - need to be careful
 - Rt. 114 area available – owners frustrated by zoning
 - mixing farm with commercial
- aesthetic ordinances for commercial businesses
 - avoid Mast Road, yellow atrocity
- better planning/control
 - don't like builders coming to town – doing what they want to without accountability (enforcement)
 - held hostage by regulatory authorities
 - state vs. town
 - timely
 - builder's deep pockets
- proactive vs. reactive
- planning guidelines don't fit
 - overburdened
 - professional assistance
 - large scale accelerated
 - not geared for it
- method to control
 - no trees cut prior to approval
 - make it more difficult
 - don't blow in, put up 30 lots
 - communal lands
 - tighten up regulations
- can they be slowed down is it possible? (time limits, state rules, deep pockets, lawyers)
- ordinances need to be looked at
 - we need professional assistance
 - Master Plan perhaps total rewrite (comprehensive) vs. piecemeal change
 - Internet as resource/examples from other towns easier than it was 5-7 years ago
- building permit quotas?
 - must prove (with professional help) regionally an emergency situation
 - infrastructure
- hard to do – we have a volunteer phasing new
 - could be ordinance to force “phasing”
- control maximum size of development
 - perhaps with increasing lot size
 - prohibit use of “marginal” land
 - prevent use of marginal (wet) areas as lot size
- works for and against us – how wetlands issues managed

- variety of methods available
 - green space corridor through town
 - flow requirements to builders
 - avoid “snob zoning”/balance affordability (lot size problem Mass legal case) may be able to work “graduated lot size”
- overall density in area
 - another view – types of land and its best use
 - look regionally at proper density for development
 - geography, what land supports soil is key
- large single lot size encouraged – sprawl
 - density issue
 - topography
 - soil types/drainage
 - soil specific lot sizing
- how does this affect multi-family
 - wetlands/buffer – difficult for planning to understand rationale – went with ordinance
 - examples of multi-family 8 units in 1 building

Potential Solutions:

- require new subdivisions to provide land to the town for recreational/conservation and town facilities (fire station/schools...)
- take comprehensive look at Master Plan and rewrite planning/zoning ordinance, to better accomplish long term purpose/goals
- encourage cluster housing that may share resources and preserve open space/review rewrite regulations
- encourage open space through tax and financial incentives
- better educate large parcel owners on benefits of conservation easements and charitable remainders trusts
 - town not a “land baron”
- better communicate “build-out plan” vision of our future under current and possible changes to planning/zoning
- institute “land-bank tax” as component of property tax (consider as volunteer participation)
- seek professional in a timely manner help to assess our situation/information and provide recommendations to revise or rewrite regulations/ordinances to support better land use
- use specific committees to support planning/zoning with volunteers (less commitment) to work specific issues
- form specific long range planning committee as town or subcommittee level
- project: realign zoning/planning ordinances with Master Plan
- develop methods to identify recurring issues that “don’t make sense” (or conflict with objectives) so we can target revision to regulations
- stiffer enforcement and penalties for law violations
- innovative planning/land use controls – soil density, land corridors

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- seek professional help in a timely manner to assess our situation/information and provide recommendation to revise or rewrite regulations/ordinances to support better land use
- take comprehensive look at Master Plan and rewrite planning/zoning ordinance to better accomplish long term purpose/goals
- require sub-division to provide land to the town for recreation/conservation and town facilities/fire station, schools
- better communicate “build-out plan” vision of our future under current and possible changes to planning and zoning
- project: realign zoning/planning ordinances with Master Plan
- develop methods to identify recurring issues that “don’t make sense” (or conflict with objectives) so we can target revisions to regulations
- innovative planning/land use controls (soil density, land corridors)

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- institute “land bank tax” as component of property tax. As a component of property tax consider as volunteer participation

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- use specific committees to support planning with volunteers (less commitment) to work specific issues
- form specific long range planning committee at town or subcommittee level

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- encourage cluster housing that may share resources and preserve open space/review rewrite regulations

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- encourage open spaces through tax and financial industries
- stiffen enforcement and penalties for law violations
- better educate land owners on benefits of conservation easements and charitable remainder trusts – town not a “land baron”

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/High Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

not noted

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

not noted

PROJECT SELECTION

We returned to the large group after lunch break. A member of each small group presented the projects that the group had come up with. Charlie French led a short discussion about whether some projects overlapped and could be combined with other closely related ones.

Every participant received five adhesive dots to use to “vote” on the project in each theme they thought were important for New Boston to work on right away. Each voter placed a dot as they wished on the top 5 projects they thought the town should work on first. The projects receiving the most votes were then discussed in small groups. The list of project ideas follows.

#1 Transportation and Road Safety

- A. Expand village parking by developing walkways from outlying areas **(combined with 6A which had 57 votes)**
- B. Increase speed enforcement through portable speed bumps, traffic monitors, neighborhood speed watches and increased police presence **(22 votes)**
- C. Seek third-party assistance in developing a town transportation plan that recognizes financial resources and addresses congestion, safety, village character and pedestrian access **(combined with 6A which had 57 votes)**

#2 Local Economy and Tax Base

- A. Hire consultant/committee to identify business zones for inclusion in Master Plan – considering natural resources and character of town **(combined with 8A which had 81 votes)**
- B. Provide assistance, outreach and encouragement to people wanting to start businesses through a town business coordinator, website, and/or brochure **(21 votes)**
- C. Explore feasibility of retirement community in town **(29 votes)**

#3 Citizen Participation

- A. Improve Internet content and capabilities to facilitate citizen participation (interactive, on-line forums, informative) **(28 votes)**
- B. Central coordination of volunteer needs and opportunities (volunteer fair, needs database, information/welcome packet) **(49 votes)**
- C. Leadership network and cultivation (a forum/fair, mentoring future leaders, training, collaborating) **(3 votes)**

#4 Lifelong Education

- A. Establish a nature center (Audubon, 4-H, PWA, Conservation Commission, small business opportunity) **(11 votes)**
- B. Middle School study committee (explore all options for our middle school students) **(51 votes)**

- C. Life-long learning resource committee to provide opportunities for pre-school through seniors through a needs assessment, finding talent and recruit, outreach to new residents, community mentor program, workshops (parenting, knitting, life skills), and assess available spaces: 4-H, community center, library, recreational center, volunteer action committee **(21 votes)**

#5 Human/Recreational Services

- A. Human services and activities coordinator **(combined with 3B which received 49 votes)**
- B. Multi-use community center **(81 votes)**
- C. Advertising and communicating services **(combined with 3A which received 28 votes)**

#6 Village and Community Character Projects

- A. Traffic concerns thru village (pedestrian enhancements, radial connections, “pod” parking) **(57 votes)**
- B. Utilization of concrete barns **(15 votes)**
- C. Defining and preserving village district – work ways to expand it **(52 votes)**

#7 Preservation of Natural Resources

- A. Inventory of potential spaces to protect such as cultural, dirt roads, special places, stonewalls **(24 votes)**
- B. Incorporate the inventory into a preservation plan to be included into the Master Plan **(combined with 8A which received 81 votes)**
- C. Ease the burden of the landowner through finance strategies designed to preserve open spaces and historical sights **(46 votes)**

#8 Planning/Zoning/Growth

- A. Take a comprehensive look at the Master Plan and rewrite zoning ordinances to better accomplish long term community goals to include: seeking timely professional advice/recommendations; require builders to incorporate green space; cluster housing, innovative land use; aesthetic planning concepts **(81 votes)**
- B. Establish additional planning board subcommittees to specific topics and long term planning – “action committees” to assist planning boards/subcommittees/professionals **(8 votes)**
- C. Educate land owners on the benefits of land preservation options through the use of conservation easements, charitable remainder trusts and other tax and financial benefits **(combined with 7C which received 46 votes)**

ACTION GROUPS

After the voting, the groups decided to focus in on the top project from each group. These are listed below with their convener information and members.

Village District Preservation/Rural Character: Anna Clark, Sherry Elliott, Mike Powell, Deanna Powell, Maddy Perron, Lee Ann Allen, Gail Parker, Mary Lanzillotti. **The convener: Marcy Morton 487-5294.**

Foot Traffic and Road Safety: Carol Hess, Randy Parker, Laura Bernard, Kerry LaPointe, Katie Kochavos, Laura Peach, Scott Dana, Sandi VanScoyoc, Ken Clinton. **The convener: Marcy Morton 487-5294**

Planning/Zoning/Growth: David Ely, Kim Burkhamer, Jim Sawyer, Eric Scoville, Willard Dodge, Bin Clark, Travis Daniels, Bonnie Koch, Dave Craig, Frank Welton. David Elliott, Brady Miliott, Ed Wood, Mark Siemiesz. **The convener: Shawn Fish 487-5502**

Multi-use Conference Center: Janet Nixon, Kathy Bradfield, Stephen Peach, Mary Barone, Kevin Lefebvre, Brenda Jones, Sheri Moloney, Melissa Harvey, Jackie Siemiesz, Don Chapman, Sarah Chapman, Susan Woodward, Bob Fehsinger, Sue Fehsinger. **The convener: Lee Brown 487-2528**

Middle School: Amy Daniels, Rich Harvey, Dave Smith, Bill Brendle, Eileen Mahoney, Kelly Kennerson, Dan Rothman. **The convener: Matthew Kennerson 487-2946**

Community Coordinator: Joyce Welton, Herbert Elliott, Verna Elliott, Holly Stark, Robert Shigley, John Bradfield, Dona Fairbairn, Dianne Sawyer, Paula Bellmore, Sheri Maloney, Martin Widmayer, Kevin McLarnon, Barbara Sholl, Deborah Vloss-Sczannel, Mica Stark, Dick Moody. **The convener: Tammi Woods 487-5354**

CONCLUSION

All the action groups will meet as a large group again on April 14, 2004 at 7 p.m. in New Boston Central School to begin to establish goals and objectives to accomplish the individual projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

APPENDIX

Community Profile Participants

Lee Allen	Mary Barone	Eileen Belanger
Gerard Beloin	Linda Beloin	Laura Bernard
Wayne Blassberg	Jim Bock	John Bradfield
Bill Brendle	Polly Brendle	Ron Brenner
Jonathan Brooks	Lee Brown	Pierre Bruno
Kim Burkhammer	Kim Burton	Tim Cady
Gordon Carlstrom	Don Chapman	Sarah Chapman
Cheryl Christner	Deb Claffey	Binney Clark
Rhoda Clark	Ken Clinton	Kathy Conk-Ryder
Gerry Cornette	Dave Craig	Janet Cristini
Joe Cristini	Scott Dana	Amy Daniels
Travis Daniels	Diana Day	Jeff Day
Kristen deMatteis	Sacha deMatteis	Bob Dever
Denise Dever	Ed DiPetro	Kim DiPetro
Arlene Dodge	Betsy Dodge	Willard Dodge
Brian Dorwart	Sherry Elliott	Bib Elliott
David Elliott	Verna Elliott	Dave Ely
Gerry Fairbairn	Jim Federer	Bob Fehsinger
Sue Fehsinger	Amy Filiault	Jackie Filiault
Shawn Fish	Bob Furey	Gale Furey
Michael George	John Gingrich	Charles Grandall
Don Grosso	Patti Grosso	Floyd Guyette
Richard Harvey	Melissa Harvey	Cameron Hawley
Suzanne Hawley	Barbara Hayes	Fred Hayes
Lisa Holmes	Scott Hunter	Pam Ilg
Patricia Jennings	Brad Johnson	Joanne Johnson
Brenda Jones	Kelley Joseph	Tom Joseph
Katie Kachavos	Gene Kelly	Kelly Kennerson
Matthew Kennerson	Bonnie Koch	Mary Koon
Marcel LaFlamme	Lou Lanzillotti	Mary Lanzillotti
Phillip Lavallee	Brenda Lind	Bob Locke
Mary Locke	Gary Luneau	Joanne Luneau
Dan MacDonald	Deborah MacDonald	Erin MacDonald
Eileen Mahoney	Peter Maloney	Sherry Maloney
Dot Marden	Jay Marden	Scott McCaskill
Joan McDonald	Kevin McLarnen	Alden Miller
Lorraine Miller	Brandy Mitroff	Donna Monboquette
Dick Moody	Marcy Morton	Joe Nangle
James Nordstrom	Heidi Palmer	John Palmer
John Palumbo	Gail Parker	Randy Parker
Laura Peach	Stephen Peach	Gerry Perron
Maddy Perron	David Plantier	Nonah Poole
Deanna Powell	Burton Reynolds	Brenda Robinson
Dona Royce	John Royce	Gordon Russell

Paul Ryder
 Jim Sawyer
 Paul Scopa
 Robert Shigley
 Mark Siemiesz
 Joyce Sullivan
 Mike Swenson
 Frances Towne
 Gabi VanTassell
 Jessica Vaughan
 Lynn Wawrzyniak
 Stormy Weston
 Beth Widmayer
 Cyndie Wilson
 Susan Woodard
 Barbara Woodland
 Josh Young

Pete Ryder
 Deborah Scannel
 Eric Scoville
 Barbara Sholl
 Jillian Smith
 Tom Sullivan
 Bob Todd
 Howard Towne
 Eric VanTassell
 Scott Vaughan
 Frank Welton
 William Weston
 Marty Widmayer
 Ed Wood
 Candy Woodbury
 Woody Woodland

Diane Sawyer
 Nancy Scopa
 Jamie Shigley
 Jacqueline Siemiesz
 Bernadette Stephens
 Connie Swenson
 Laura Todd
 Sandy VanScoyoc
 Myrna Vashaw
 John Wawrzyniak
 Joyce Welton
 Janet White
 Jess Willard
 Tammi Wood
 David Woodbury
 Holly Young

Community Profile Facilitators and Recorders

Irene Baudreau
 Wayne Blassberg
 Ken Clinton
 Gerry Fairbairn
 Minda Henderson
 Kerry LaPointe
 Deanna Powell
 Pete Ryder
 Mica Stark
 Scott Vaughan

Paula Bellemore
 Gregg Caporossi
 Travis Daniels
 Rob Graybill
 Carol Hess
 Brett McLarnon
 Mike Powell
 Dave Smith
 Sarah Trioli

Laura Bernard
 Anna Clark
 Anne Dignard
 Melissa Harvey
 Brian Irwin
 Stephen Peach
 Dan Rothman
 Holly Stark
 Gabi VanTassell

Community Profile Steering Committee

Kathy Bradfield
 Bill Hebert
 Lyn Lombard
 Mike Powell
 Lenny White

Dona Fairbairn
 Kerry LaPointe
 Ken Lombard
 Mica Stark
 Connie Wittneben

Melissa Harvey
 Kevin Lefebvre
 Janet Nixon
 Nic Strong

New Boston Community Profile Follow-up Meeting April 13, 2004

Foot Traffic:

- Look at noise, foot traffic, etc.
- Solve traffic issues
- Get current available data (Southern NH Regional Planning, DOT, town)
- Look at original village district report town subcommittee did

Next meeting: May 7@ 5 p.m. at the Gazebo in town

Convener: Randy Parker hrandallparker@cs.com

Members:	Carol Hess	dignitylaw@aol.com
	Randy Parker	487-2722 hrparker@cs.com
	Laura Bernard	487-2556 lcassavaugh@yahoo.com
	Kerry LaPointe	klapointe@pcconnection
	Katie Kochavos	487-3424
	Laura Peach	487-2963 laura.peach@sylvania.com
	Scott Dana	NHSAD@cs.com
	Sandi VanScoyoc	487-2052 sandivs@allvantage.com
	Ken Clinton	487-3909 toKJCA@msn.com

Preservation of Village District:

- Keep town charm
- Interview subcommittee on village district repair
- Examine existing regs/zoning for new businesses
- Look at Master Plan for existing water/sewer information
- Meet with finance committee

Next meeting: not scheduled – more recruitment will take place

Convener: Marcy Morton moneymort@adelphia.net

Members:	Anna Clark	487-5213
	Sherry Elliott	487-2660 sheridanelliott@aol.com
	Mike Powell	487-2837
	Deanna Powell	487-2837
	Maddy Perron	487-2436 mperron4@juno.com
	LeeAnn Allen	487-2295 houseallen@earthlink.net
	Gail Parker	487-2722 brandallparker@cs.com
	Mary Lanzillotti	487-2139 ml03070@aol.com

Multi-Use Community Center

- Identify all uses for the building – get notes from Profile report on “needs”
- Look at “stress” (time-wise) of current building
- Look at instilling impact fees to pay for it and do other fundraising

Next meeting: May [5@7p.m.](#) at the Grange Hall

Convener: Lee Brown @487-2528 lee.c.brown@verison.net

Members:

Susan Christie Woodward	487-2480	pygarus@aol.com
Erin Macdonald	487-5031	damacdon@anselm.edu
Deborah Macdonald	487-5031	damacdon@cs.com
Michael J. Wolf	487-3137	mmmmmwolf@adelphia.net
Don Chapman	487-2481	
Kathy Bradfield	487-5574	
Connie Wittneben	487-3920	conniewittneben@adelphia.net
Mary Barone	487-5261	
Mike Sindoni	666-0973	

Others who signed up at Profile, but didn't come to follow-up meeting:

Janet Nixon	487-5589	
Stephen Peach	487-2963	steve@thearchitects.net
Kevin Lefebvre	487-2225	
Brenda Jones	487-5272	
Sheri Moloney	487-3577	tumbleweeds@adelphia.net
Melissa Harvey	487-3577	harveyshouse@earthlink.com
Jackie Siemiesz	487-2350	Mjsiemiecz@aol.com
Bob & Sue Fehsinger	487-3330	Fehsinger@att.net
Jacki Filiault	487-2159	jax24G@aol.com
Mica Stark	487-5414	portark@adelphia.net

Community Volunteer Coordinator

- Define needs/opportunities from local organizations already existing through a survey
- What are social service needs and resources already available
- Put available resources into a directory as well as up on the town website or New Boston Speaks website (make sure hard copies are available)
- Do a survey of residents to find out what they would like to volunteer for

Convener: Tammi Wood 487-5354 tamster859@hotmail.com

Next meeting date: May 4th @ 7pm at the Historical Society

Members:

Joyce Welton	487-3007	jwweltonrs@cs.com
Herbert “Bib” & Verna Elliot	487-3349	282 Francestown Road (please mail info)
Holly Stark	487-5414	hstark@bbw.com
Robert Shigley	487-3080	life5inne@hotmail.com
John Bradfield	487-5574	jbradfield@sprynet.com
Dona Fairbairn	487-2325	gerryordona@adelphia.net

Dianne Sawyer	487-2258	dmarionb@aol.com
Paula Bellemore	487-5090	pbelle62@yahoo.com
Sheri Moloney	487-5015	tumbleweeds@adelphia.net
Martin Widmayer	487-5157	martin@widmayer.net
Kevin McLarnon	487-2285	kevin_mclarnon@us.ibm.com
Barbara Sholl	487-2285	b_sholl@yahoo.com
Deborah Vloss-Scznnell	487-3168	sms14days@aol.com
Mica Stark	487-5414	mstark@anselm.edu
Dick Moody	487-3379	moody3415@aol.com

Planning/Zoning/Growth

- Assist in Master Plan update and with zoning regulations
- Help Planning Board in their activities
- Look at build-out plan
- Look at unrevised chapters to Master Plan

Convener: Brandy Mitroff 487-5200 nbulletin@adelphia.net

Next meeting date: TBD (will meet with Planning Board at an upcoming meeting)

Members:	Ed Wood	487-5354	ewood1999@hotmail.com
	Mark Siemiesz	487-2350	msiemiesz@stabilecompanies.com
	David Ely	487-3908	daely@aol.com
	Lyn Lombard	487-5114	klombard@grolen.com
	David Elliott	487-2660	sheridanelliott@aol.com
	Frank Welton	487-3007	
	Dave Craig	487-3915	drc@craiglawoffice.com
	Gene Kelly	487-3462	
	Jay Marden	487-2728	
	Willard Dodge	487-1484	
	Jim Sawyer	487-2258	jcarters@aol.com
	Bin Clark	487-5576	wsc@wsc.mv.com
	Rhoda Clark	487-5576	wsc@wsc.mv.com
	Ken Lombard	487-5114	klombard@grolen.com
	Bonnie Koch	487-2308	mtnladybmk@yahoo.com

Others who signed up at Profile, but didn't come to follow-up meeting:

Eric Scoville	487-9992	
Kim Burchamer	487-5594	kim@pits.mv.com
Travis Daniels	487-2448	

Middle School Study

- Examine the study that's already been done to make sure it's still valid
- Do projections for New Boston and Goffstown on student enrollment
- Recruit more members

Convener: Matthew Kennerson

487-2946 matthew.kennerson@adelphia.net

Next meeting date: TBD

Members: Eileen Mahoney 497-4289 mahoney-wynn@prodigy.net
Others who signed up at Profile, but didn't come to follow-up meeting:
Amy Daniels 487-2448 adaniels@nbc.kiz.nh.us
Rich Harvey willnroses@yahoo.com
Dave Smith david.l.smith@mercerc.com
Bill Brendle 487-2447
Kelly Kennerson 487-2946 kelly.kennerson@adelphia.net
Dan Rothman drothman@adelphia.net

Next Large Group Follow-up Meeting (with updates from each group):
May 19th at 7pm place TBD
(Lyn will get out flyers around)