



UNIVERSITY *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**Lyndeborough**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**PROFILE**  
**REPORT**

**Lyndeborough, New Hampshire**  
**September 14 & 15, 2001**

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Wilton-Lyndeborough School Board

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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 Civic 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 change 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 Lyndeborough

#### History

The idea for a Community Profile in Lyndeborough was initiated by Lyndeborough Planning Board Chair, Susan Brodie, in late 2000 and was enthusiastically endorsed by the Planning Board and other Lyndeborough Town Committees and Departments.

#### Organization

The Lyndeborough Master Plan Committee volunteered to organize the Profile event and Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) invited the Hillsborough County UNH Cooperative Extension to give an introductory presentation at the Master Plan meeting of February 1, 2001. At that meeting the weekend of September 14 and 15, 2001 was set for the Lyndeborough Community Profile event. Follow-up meetings were held with the Steering Committee Chair, UNH Cooperative Extension, and NRPC on April 10, 2001 and May 17, 2001. A Steering Committee was formed that was comprised of volunteers from the community as well as the Planning Board and the Master Plan Committee. The first Steering Committee meeting was held on June 18, 2001. A brainstorming session resulted in a list of 52 citizens who were invited to join the Steering Committee. The second meeting was held on July 2, 2001 with a group exercise and breakout sessions.

From this exercise Committee members signed up and took on specific responsibilities:

Steering Committee Chair	Liz Todd
Treasurer	Ruth Johnston
Secretary	Marge Hallyburton
Liaison & Statistician	Jessie Salisbury, Helen Van Ham
Invitations & Programs	Helen Van Ham
Publicity & Promotion	Nancy Tobi, Kathy Mottau
Fund Raising & Donations	Evelyn Harwood
Registration	Maryalice Fullerton, Marge Hallyburton, Kathy Mottau
Food	Fran Houston
Logistics of Site	Liz Todd, Walter Holland
Small Group Facilitator	
Coordinator	Cyndi Geiger
Child Care	Sue Cheever
Transportation	Ed Mottau
Photographer	Jim Button, WLC students

There were nine meetings of the full Steering Committee and many additional sub committee meetings held between June 18 and September 13 in preparation for the Community Profile event on September 14-15, 2001.

#### Participant Recruitment

All Steering Committee members were asked to submit 10-20 names of possible volunteers at the third meeting and the Small Group Facilitator Coordinator set up a database with names, addresses, phone numbers, and email. This resulted in many additional resources for sub-committees. The database was continually updated as we went along and is subsequently in use, and being updated, by some of the project groups resulting from the Profile event.

The Committee mailed out over 525 invitations with return postcards addressed to the Treasurer. Posters were displayed and follow up calls made to over 500 households. Steering Committee members spoke to the Pinnacle Mountain Fish & Game Club, Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Master Plan Committee, Zoning Board, the School Board and as many local groups as possible.

Based on our population of approximately 525 households the targeted attendance was 50-100 persons. Attendance for the potluck supper was 92 people and both days of the event averaged 60 people participating in the sessions.

#### Facilitation

The Steering Committee asked some community members to act as facilitators for the small group sessions at the Community Profile. Acting facilitators included Burton Reynolds, Dwight Sowerby, Lois Kenick, Walter Holland, Tracy Turner, and Jessie Salisbury. We also were joined by volunteer facilitators Linda Foster and Mike Fimbel from Mont Vernon, Margaret Hagen, Alice Mullen, and John Nute from UNH, and Matt Waitkins from NRPC. Other backup volunteers included Cynthia Geiger, Ruth Johnston, Edna Worcester, Liz Todd, and John and Lucille Watt.

## Sponsors and Donations

The Steering Committee decided to hold a potluck supper on Friday night and provide a light breakfast and lunch on Saturday. We knew we also would have some expenses for printing and mailing invitations and letters. This created a need for fund raising. The committee created and mailed a fundraising letter and made presentations or solicitations to public and private organizations and individuals in the Lyndeborough area. There was a very rewarding response to this appeal and we would especially like to recognize Sue Cheever and Label Arts for printing all the invitations and return postcards.

## Follow Up

The Steering Committee planned a meeting on September 24 to evaluate the event. The Steering Committee will continue to meet monthly to support the individual project groups and dispense funds for planned expenses such as printing copies of the final Community Profile Report and the new community newsletter.

## Candlelight Vigil

The Small Group Facilitator Training was scheduled for Tuesday night, September 11, 2001. On Tuesday morning terrorists hijacked several commercial airliners and used them to destroy the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and a part of the Pentagon in Washington, DC. A fourth plane was diverted by several of its valiant passengers and crashed in an open field in Pennsylvania.

On Tuesday night we were all dazed and saddened by the events but we knew we had to go ahead with our Community Profile and training our volunteers. After a moment of silence for the losses of the morning the Facilitator Training proceeded as scheduled.

By Friday we were just beginning to understand how wide and far-reaching those losses would become. The need we all felt for sharing our sorrow was driving a worldwide effort for a candlelight vigil on Friday evening at 7:00 PM EDT.

As we began to assemble Friday afternoon we knew that we all wanted to be a part of that moment. Volunteers from the United Church of Lyndeborough borrowed candles and recommended a church member to lead our vigil. At 7:00PM on Friday, September 14 we stopped our Community Profile program and gathered under a storm-tossed sky to light our candles and share a prayer for the ongoing rescue efforts and the loved ones lost or missing.

We had known that we would be gathering that night in our small community to assess where we were and begin to look to the future. This vigil seemed to be a reaffirmation of our purpose and our place in the world as we were all led by our hearts to share that moment in time.

**Lyndeborough Community Profile**  
**Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School**  
**September 14 & 15, 2001**

**Agenda**

Friday Evening

**5:30 Sign-In & Pot-Luck Supper**

**6:30 Welcome** - Judy Bush, Extension Educator and  
Coordinator, Strengthening NH Communities

- Overview of Community Profile Process
- Who is here?

**Mosaic and Vision**

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

**Historical Overview** - Helen Van Ham

- Where has Lyndeborough been?

**7:40 Presentation of Community Profile components**

- 1) Informed Citizen Participation & Community Leadership
- 2) Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals & Youth and Lifelong Learning
- 3) Community Services, Facilities, Utilities and Transportation
- 4) Economic Vitality and Growth & Development
- 5) Sense of Community and Recreation & Cultural Heritage
- 6) Working Landscape & the Natural Environment

**8:15 Small group discussions of components**

Random assignments to small groups, one component per group

- Strengths of Lyndeborough in the component area
- Weaknesses of Lyndeborough 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

**8:00 Coffee and check-in**

**8:30 Small group reports**

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

**9:15 Selection of key issues-participants select small group/issues**

**9:45 Break**

**10:00 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

**11:45 Report back from small groups**

**12:15 Lunch and voting**

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

**1:15 Individual selection of project development groups**

**1:20 Project development: small groups**

- Principal leadership
- Resources needed
- Potential obstacles/solutions
- Action steps and timeline

**3:10 Report back from small groups**

- Thank you's
- Coordination of follow-up efforts

**3:30 Adjourn**

# Lyndeborough Community Profile

## Friday Evening

The Lyndeborough Community Profile was conducted at Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School over two days: Friday evening, September 14, 2001 and all day Saturday, September 15, 2001. About 81 participants attended on Friday with approximately 58 people attending on Saturday. The list of attendees was slightly different each day.

The event began Friday with a potluck supper. Judy Bush, Extension Educator and Coordinator of the Strengthening NH Communities Initiative, gave us an overview of the profile process and an introduction to the goals for the two days. A community profile is something like a potluck supper - a feast of ideas. 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 and where we work. 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 Lyndeborough like today?**

- lots of land between houses
- quiet
- agri-pursuits
- rich wildlife
- friendly caring people
- undeveloped mountain tops
- safe
- lots of commuter traffic
- good baked goods
- hard to pronounce
- small New England town
- great scenic views
- dirt roads
- old houses
- good place to raise children
- lots of wetlands
- good air quality
- good sense of our history
- wonderful volunteers
- not well-known
- no industry
- patriotic
- no community center
- apples
- nurturing elementary school
- good neighbors
- we can get here from there but they can't get here from there
- great Citizen's Hall
- library too small
- good Internet access
- no senior services
- barns and hayfields

- crowded schools
- no street lights
- unique citizens
- low crime
- too much gossip
- not enough participation in town meeting
- home of Lafayette Artillary
- great police departments
- beautiful stone walls
- growing rapidly
- unique terrain
- many unpaved roads
- speeders on center road
- town meeting form of government
- not enough town officials
- generations of families

## **THE VISION - What do we want Lyndeborough to be like in the future?**

- some form of identity for town, i.e. type of fence, type of shrub
- people do realize what a beautiful town it is when they come into town
- regular town festivals
- no street lights
- preserve the unique varied character of the town
- very slow growth
- have a historical building for documents
- some kind of assisted living facility so we don't have to leave
- a place for people to gather
- lower property taxes, especially for the elderly
- depict beautiful geographical terrain
- maintain rural setting
- small New England town
- not a house every 250 feet on all roads
- strong agricultural support
- retain open hunting lands
- preserve center of Lyndeborough
- no strip malls
- church socials-youth center
- no fast food chains
- people willing to run for town offices
- maintain quiet
- maintain open space
- continue to develop educational base for children
- preservation of Lyndeborough-Mts
- adequate library
- a paid town manager
- full-time principal for elementary school
- commercial and light industry to support wish list
- comprehensive community info. Pool
- broader community participation
- grow and support transportation system-like fish
- open space-habitat for wildlife
- maintain individual rights including property rights
- no cellular towers
- different elementary school location
- kindergarten
- more pride in Lafayette Artillary
- maintain rural winding dirt roads
- no mosquitos or black flies
- anti-littering ordinance

- more volunteers to support fire and ambulance service
- clear commitment to principles when settling disputes
- continued protection for drinking water supply
- monthly community newsletter
- no purple lustrife
- a town that is livestock friendly, especially horses
- dark skies at night
- sensible government spending
- quiet
- passenger train service
- hiking and horse trails through the mts.
- new buildings reflect character of the town
- old houses preserved
- old barns preserved
- healthy and diverse wildlife
- no traffic lights
- diverse population
- bike path
- hiking and horse trails through mts.
- new buildings reflect character of town
- highlight and identify historical sites
- more bears than cars
- maintain right and freedom to home school
- affordable housing

## **LYNDEBOROUGH HISTORY-**

Next, Helen Van Ham presented a history of Lyndeborough. Following are dates of key historical events:

- 1690 Salem, MA regiment of 60 sent to Canada to help capture Quebec for English
- 1735 MA paid these men with a six mile square grant of land called Salem Canada
- 1736 Center for town chosen at top of Putnam Hill, first road built
- 1737 Learned Salem Canada in NH, not MA
- 1742 Land taken to form Wilton and given land on N and W to make up area
- 1751 New Boston given 2700A from NW corner
- 1752 Received charter from NH naming town Lyndeborough
- 1763 Town incorporated
- 1764 First Town Meeting
- 1772 First school
- 1775 Sent delegate to Exeter & stockpiled salt, molasses and rum
- 1776 Town divided into school districts
- 1791 Greenfield and Francestown given land in N and W of the town
- 1796 Temple received 600A in SW corner
- 1800 2<sup>nd</sup> NH Turnpike built, mail delivered to North Lyndeborough
- 1812 Militia sent to Portsmouth to guard fort and harbor
- 1831 Forest Road opened
- 1852 Mont Vernon formed with land on E border of town
- 1865 110 men furnished to Union Army
- 1866 Glass Factory formed
- 1873 Railroad build through town
- Received state aid for highways, 1<sup>st</sup> telephones in town

- 1911 J.A. Tarbell Library dedicated
- 1919 School Supervisory Union #63 formed
- 1929 Electric lights came to Perham Corner & South Lyndeborough
- 1930 First organized fire department
- 1938 Voted for a Budget Committee
- 1948 Fire House dedicated
- 1949 Lyndeborough Central School opened
- 1955 Voted for Planning Board
- 1956 Voted for Building Regulations with a Board of Adjustment
- 1961 Voted for Zoning Ordinance and Building Regulations
- 1970 Voted for a Conservation Commission
- 1971 Wilton Lyndeborough Co-op opened
- 1988 Voted for Growth Management Ordinance

# COMMUNITY PROFILE SIX COMPONENTS

After we developed a mosaic and vision for Lyndeborough, and digested some of the history, Judy introduced us to the idea of discussing Lyndeborough within the framework of 6 qualities which can be used to profile a community. These topics, modified 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**

Informed Citizen Participation & Community Leadership

## **Community Infrastructure**

Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth and Lifelong Learning

Community Services, Facilities, Utilities & Transportation

Sense of Community and Recreation & Cultural Heritage

## **Environment**

Working Landscape & the Natural Environment

## **Economy**

Economic Vitality and Growth & Development

Next, 6 small groups of approximately 13 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 was asked the questions below in order to begin the discussion. Participants were asked to list the strengths of Lyndeborough as they saw them, and then to list its weaknesses. 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 which need to be addressed in the town. These were brought back to the whole group and highlighted in three-minute summations presented by a member of each small group.

## **1. Informed Citizen Participation and Community Leadership**

Facilitator: Dwight Sowerby      Recorder: Margaret Hagen      Spokesperson: Virginia Taylor

Participants: Rick Roy, Richard Herfurth, Barbara Shinn, Rosie Howe, Edger Howard, Jerry Reneau, Mark Weissfloy, Diane Weissfloy, Tanya Weissflog, Gloria St. Laurent, Susan Coronis, Chris Cooke

### Statement of Purpose:

In a healthy community, citizens actively participate through voting in local elections, serving on local boards, attending public hearings, and being involved in civic organizations and community activities. 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.

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 socially viable future. 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 interests (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.
- Leaders demonstrate long-range (20+ years) thinking. They understand the impacts of their actions on the long term health and vitality of the community.
- 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.
- Schools, churches, youth and civic groups provide citizen education and promote community service.
- Citizens actively recruited and involved in major projects?
- Participation and leadership is proactive instead of reactive, facing community issues before they become crises.
- Civic organizations and local businesses actively contribute to community functions.
- Local committees and boards communicate well with each other, the public and with boards and committees throughout the region.

#### Group Response- Strengths:

- fellow residents very caring and helpful; also town officials and paid staff
- everyone turns out to help someone in trouble
- the smallness of the town leads to more personal responsibility
- population of opinionated residents feel free to express their opinions about issues
- myriad of people with different professions
- voter turnout above average
- some active recruitment for town positions
- people of Lyndeborough will show up to do something (rather than talk about something)
- dedicated volunteers (fire dept. ambulance) as well as police department
- children nurtured by Fish & Game (fishing derbies, hunting)
- village store is a strength
- need to tap into retired persons with valuable knowledge to offer

#### Group Response- Concerns:

- reliance on same few people to run for office
- ability to become informed is high handicapped by trying to stay informed only through the Cabinet & newsletter (especially for new residents)
- have to be careful not to become Internet dependent for communication within the whole community
- along with the lack of communication comes the lack of opportunity for involvement
- information relayed to the newspaper doesn't get printed
- many people move to a small village not to be involved with the community
- Lyndeborough doesn't have a local reporter for the cabinet
- Zoning Board of Aldermen , Selectman, etc. take a lot of abuse and put in a lot of time; it's hard to find citizens willing to serve in view of the history of conflicts in the last 5 years; have to stop crucifying board people
- if Selectman's job is onerous, then the only people willing to serve have private agendas
- need a more enthusiastic commitment to principles of community
- jobs that are 50-60 hours per week cuts down the time available to participate as leader or citizen
- lack of available knowledge about people on ballots is a problem for those voting
- why aren't young people in the community registered to vote
- 100% voter registration is a challenge

- lack of a town center/place to gather doesn't encourage participation
- should town council be solely our council rather than council for other towns, too
- children don't register to vote because they don't see the town as a place to stay (lack of jobs); "parents' town"
- need to have something for the children here (baseball, soccer, etc.)
- Lyndeborough doesn't have a physical space large enough to do the business of the town (kids' don't finish school in Lyndeborough); need a space to help us "be" in our town
- not everyone can access Citizen's Hall (no disabled access)
- modern insurance liabilities are a problem; funding to cope very high
- town offices open restricted days/hours

### Vision for the Future:

- introductory package with information or visits to town newcomers (what we'd like to see in the future is what we did in the past); Town of Friendly Neighbors
- monthly newsletter-dissemination of information by multiple methods
- town events, bulletin boards: village store, library, etc.
- positive spin on Zoning Board of Aldermen, etc. actions; show appreciation for those who do the jobs so others will want to participate
- town administrator
- town web page
- voter registration 100%; field trip to take students to Town Hall (make it a school requirement); set up tables and booths to register in the schools—circles back to communication: why do people want to vote if they aren't informed?
- require students to go to Town Meeting as part of school curriculum
- town problems are brought to officials and they are powerless to solve them because of lack of funds and power (lack of judiciary power)
- truly open selectman's meetings so people can get to know each other
- larger meeting area that can accommodate more people
- community events (BBQ's, swims, etc.)
- weddings, dances at Citizen's Hall; landmark anniversaries as community affairs
- local/town reporter
- monthly luncheon, entertainment for older people; also a call-in service

### Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Communication: expand and diversify our vehicles for communication (newspapers, bulletin boards, open meetings); also how the citizens communicate with town leaders
2. Find ways to make the mechanics of town government more "doable" and then find ways to attract people to serve
3. Town identity as defined by a physical space, community events
4. Capitalize on resources available in and outside of town boundaries
5. Find ways to get full citizen involvement with special attention given to youth and the elderly

## **2. Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth & Lifelong Learning**

Facilitator: Burton Reynolds      Recorder: Alice Mullen      Spokesperson: Karen Holland  
 Participants: Aaron Brown, Helen van Ham, Liz Todd, Peg Charpentier, Kathie Beltz, Edward Mottau, Kathleen Mottau,  
 Nick Taylor, Marge Hallyburton, Karen Onybla

### Statement of Purpose:

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 members.

Programs of higher education and lifelong learning provide local businesses 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:

- 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 (public, private and nonprofit) work together to provide a comprehensive package of programs.
- There is adequate information about the available services and many community members utilize them.
- Many of the services allow families to participate together.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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:

services:

- Easter Seals
- open cupboard pantry & gas card
- fish-rides for people to Dr. offices
- town welfare officer
- community church
- village store
- state services
- Fish & Game
- Goss Park
- Girls & Boys Scouts
- Babes in Schooland Pre-School
- YMCA has summer camp in Merrimack-pick up kids in Milford
- Meals on Wheels
- VNA
- hospice
- Wilton-Lyndeoborough Youth Center
- Sports: Wilton-Lyndeoborough Jr. Athletic Association (baseball, soccer, basketball)
- 4-H
- often drive ½ hr. to get to activities, but it's expected by residents
- skating rink

education:

- upgraded high school

- modern high school facilities
- several educational choices -home schooling, public, private, religious
- small-sized elementary and high school
- dedicated teachers
- competent teachers
- school volunteers
- town has always supported school budgets
- vocational opportunities with Milford HS

### Group Response- Concerns:

#### services:

- no communication about services available
- no after-school program
- no drug prevention officer in town
- no Sr. bus or organized activities for Sr.'s
- no transportation for Sr's who don't drive
- no place to ride bikes
- lost Cub Scout charter
- no town meeting place - focal place
- no public town land for concerts, fields to play on
- no place to feel welcome or celebrates the family
- skating rink - not done effectively

#### education:

- limited advanced studies: only French and Spanish, no calculus
- public library inadequate
- computers inadequate
- no Internet access at public library
- inadequate space at elementary school
- Fire Department report
- limited space for expansion for elementary school
- if children are nurtured in a community, they feel safe in they can grow into what they are to become
- education is not tailored to every child's needs
- no kindergarten
- town doesn't use the resources it has i.e. Helen Van Hamm to do history of town

### Vision for the Future:

- mentoring program-for residents; someone to call for info.
- town center with meeting space and kitchen facilities
- newsletter to inform on services in town
- website for town
- ongoing community involvement in many activities-not just one person
- let people know their involvement is needed
- mentor program for kids
- literacy program for adults-Adult Ed.
- how to bridge privacy with connectedness

### Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. upgrade elementary school (like we did with the high school)
2. create a community/town center
3. local communications network program (newsletter, welcome wagon, mentoring)

### 3. Community Services, Facilities, Utilities and Transportation

Facilitator: Lois Kenick

Recorder: Matt Waitkins

Spokesperson: Ruth Johnston

Participants: Scott Johnson, Jeanne Adams, John Morison, Evelyn Beran, Karen Hews, Corey Cheever, Caryln McEnter, Cindy Ginn, Bob Lewis, Jan Lewis, Ron Baron, Patrick Gillam, Randolph Beltz

#### 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.

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 pedestrian and bicycle travel and bus and rail transportation.

#### 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 sources are 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.
- 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.
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_.
- The community encourages car pooling, and helps make it work for people by providing information and accessible parking areas.
- Tradeoffs, such as maintenance, pollution and congestion are considered when widening main roads or building new roads.

#### Group Response- Strengths:

roads:

- scenic (trees/old style)
- not too crowded: safe because not crowded
- highway advisory group had recommendation—committee appointed by selectman?
- dirt roads-want to keep them because of horseback riding, easy to maintain, can't speed
- road agent has improved roads (winter maintenance, etc.)
- community sense of safety of roads/they see problems and report

water:

- predominantly well water
- general sights that can support greater than 2 families
- in good shape
- no town water potential (NRPC can verify)

- this is good because it controls growth
- can control quality of your own water
- better than in Wilton, which has town water

#### sewage:

- limited by soils/it controls growth
- building codes require septic design (new houses)

#### recycling:

- very strong @ Wilton/Lyndeborough

#### emergency services:

- quick response in any weather
- extremely well-trained
- dedicated
- citizen's group that is dedicated

#### public schools:

- communication point if you have kids
- lots of kids not in public school: more taxes than kids
- public vs. private perspective
- regionalization perspective

### Group Response- Concerns:

#### water:

- no bacterial testing required
- may need filtration because of manganese and iron
- no formal aquifer protection
- no formal water supply protection
- road salt

#### sewage:

- no monitoring: potential danger to water quality
- no formal monitoring process
- even in new septic design, toxics can be dumped
- need to educate about not dumping toxics into septic

#### recycling:

- no landfill in town
- pending requirement to close Wilton
- only one toxic waste day per year
- hours @ recycling center need to be expanded
- survey: dumpster vs. recycling
- recycling education needed

#### emergency services

- bad roads in winter impede access
- house #'s need to be more obvious
- need to maintain proper clearance for trees over power lines (who to call about what?)

#### public schools:

- elementary school on NH31 is a dangerous location
- public vs. private issues perspective
- regionalization perspective

## Vision for the Future:

### adequate:

- Citizen's Hall
- parks
- Post Office
- Monadnock Visiting Nurses

### needs improvement:

- Old Meeting House (old Town Hall)-restore upstairs, insulate, use it more
- library
- hospice services
- call-in services for elderly (is needed)
- telephone service split between town
- police station-more space
- public transportation to medical services for elderly

### future needs:

- cemetery

### no identifier:

- F.I.S.H. (volunteer transportation to medical services)

### communications/dissemination of information about town services:

- welcome packet for newcomers/welcome wagon
- communicate information about town services
- communicate information about town

## Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. community services-volunteers, information dissemination, local news
2. roads-maintenance, scenic nature, winter
3. public health services-sewer & water, elderly, transportation
4. safety and education-ambulance, fire, schools, education to rural ways of life (no toxics in the septic)
5. facilities-school, cemeteries, fire station, police station

## **4. Economic Vitality and Growth & Development**

Facilitator: Linda Foster

Recorder: Jessie Salisbury

Spokesperson: Gail Walleston

Participants: Bruce Geiger, Steve Gilson, Bob Rogers, Jim MacMahon, Paul Turner, Edna Worcester, Sue Levesque, Virginia

Brooks, Dennis Adams, Jim Button, Wendy Baron

### 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. 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.

A healthy community includes access to a variety of environmentally sound and successful 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. 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:

- A variety of businesses, industries and institutions make up the economic base of the community and the region, such as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_.
- 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.
- 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, young families and/or single-parent families.
- Land use regulations and land protection efforts are preserving an adequate amount of open space in the community and areas of natural beauty and historic importance are well protected.

### Group Response- Strengths:

- not a lot of businesses in town
- good until we get a tax bill
- a lot of home business
- agriculture is a big part of town
- handy to have an automotive garage in town
- love the village store/good sandwiches
- diversify business with regulatory support and popular support
- zoning needs updating
- not interested in economic development-like the rural atmosphere
- economic development doesn't always mean lower taxes
- getting harder to pay taxes
- new high school a draw
- every child costs the town
- pick an area for industry

### Group Response- Concerns:

- increasing costs-need a way to increase revenue base without industry or businesses
- there is no part of town that isn't residential already
- NIMBY will make it hard to rezone
- keep town costs down
- more people mean more costs
- need more state support (especially for schools)
- want to protect town character
- open land costs less than developed land
- try to encourage preservation of open space

### Vision for the Future:

- community house/center
- coffee shop
- town is going to grow

- pay portion of selling price into a fund to lower taxes for long time residents
- develop our own rules for development-redefine economic development to protect residents
- should think and act regionally-look at the bigger picture
- state income tax
- abolish county government
- town is going to change
- don't have any town services to attract industry
- business expects support services
- not business-friendly

### Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. economic support, not development-figure out how to help each other (take a regional approach)
2. find some way to preserve agriculture
3. zoning needs updating-preserve the growth rate
4. tax rate-relief for elderly or fixed income
5. open space preservation as part of the economic vitality

## **5. Sense of Community and Recreation & Cultural Heritage**

Facilitator: Walter Holland      Recorder: Mike Fimber

Spokesperson: Phil Brooks

Participants: Scott Bois, Chase Roeper, Sue Brodie, Cynthia Geiger, Mike Kaelin, Jerry Levesque, Naoline Preftakes, Debra MacMahon, Sally Curran, Kiersten Gregory, Elizabeth Raymond

### 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. 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.

Recreational and cultural activities nurture the body and soul of a community - individual and team sports outdoor activities, art, 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:

- 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.
- Community members often put aside their differences to work for the common good of the community.
- Formal and informal forums exist for sharing ideas and resolving public issues.
- 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:

- general stores as gathering place
- great neighbors
- home
- neighborhood gatherings
- rural character
- lot of wooded area
- volunteer Fire Department
- Lyndeborough center
- volunteers in general
- agricultural heritage
- dirt roads
- outdoors people
- Lafayette Artillery
- Citizen's Hall
- elementary school
- diverse people coming to town
- community church
- openness of natives to newcomers
- book discussion group
- knowledge & history of town by longtime residence
- Goss family park
- cooperation with other towns
- library
- Fire Department Auxillary-Easter egg hunt, Santa, apple festival
- Memorial Day parade
- February Artillery Washington's Ball
- Lyndeborough Improvement Society
- Lyndeborough Historical Society
- good garden club

### Group Response- Concerns:

- urban sprawl (new houses)
- concern of posted land
- keep land available for recreation that does not infringe on other people, ie. hunting, hiking, snowmobiles, mountain bikes, ATV
- when does recreational activities become "commercial" and how does that impact the town?
- zoning regulation ok for future? (minimum lot size, road frontage)
- communicating town events
- focus on one area for community events
- identity for town "image"
- communication in general
- town handbook (none currently)
- Old Home Days
- appearance of village of "Lyndeborough"
- elementary use & expansion for community use
- youth activities

### Vision for the Future:

- more community-wide events
- town newsletter or newspaper
- build community center--youth/senior
- town welcome sign(s)

- seasonal town festivals
- preserving old buildings
- preserving natural heritage (mountain tops)
- identify historic sites and buildings
- build new school and make old school community center
- purchase of land by town for open space and recreation (saves town money in the long run)
- more persons at town meeting

### Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. more community events
2. communication-resident handbook, website, newspaper/newsletter, bulletin board
3. preservation (rural character/heritage)-building, land, natural resources
4. community center
5. identity, image, pride-how do we want to be known to the outside world

## **6. Working Landscape & the Natural Environment**

Facilitator: Tracey Turner      Recorder: Jon Nute      Spokesperson: Any Roeper

Participants: Ann Harkleroad, Sue Carita, Kyle Oliver, Jill Landshor, Mary Alice Fullerton, Barbara Sim, Susan Cheever

### 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, forests, 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 resource base.
- There is broad community interest and participation in protecting key natural resources 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 stresses on those natural resource systems.
- There are ways to increase the resilience of the local natural resources 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 resources 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:

- mountain ranges
- substantial undeveloped areas
- varied wildlife
- great hiking

- blueberries
- old bridges
- variety of terrain
- lots of open (field) land-vistas
- no development on mountains
- clean rivers
- 300 acres of wetland conservation area
- apple orchards, pumpkins, cows
- Burton Pond-continuity of natural areas
- historic buildings
- no individual lighting
- businesses compliments rural nature
- growth ordinance-”building cap”
- cell tower placement-public comment

### Group Response- Concerns:

- tax maps inaccurate
- fragmentation, new houses
- houses too close together
- lack of cluster zoning
- lots of large old landowners may come on market in near future
- need conservation master plan
- no ridge line building prohibition
- no open space inventory
- no outdoor lighting control
- no working farms
- no state or federal parks, forests, etc.
- growth affects wildlife
- lack of regional perspective
- lots of trees being cut
- roads being widened
- road aesthetics
- scenic roads abused
- loss of wildlife habitat
- no habitat maps
- no public access to lakes, no swimming

### Vision for the Future:

- active efforts to get conservation land
- enticements to keep land undeveloped
- active, vibrant conservation commission saving key parcels of land
- conservation master plan
- outdoor lighting ordinance
- control motorized O.H.R.V.A & areas with no vehicles
- brochure of public areas, trails
- “right to farm” ordinances support farms
- explore ways to continue farming
- community funds for land conservation
- preserve landmark properties

### Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. maintain public access, open land and ridge views (mountain tops)
2. create habitat maps, establish and maintain wildlife habitat
3. develop conservation master plan as part of town master plan to preserve rural character
4. keep the farms
5. save landmark properties

# Saturday Morning

Everyone reassembled bright and early Saturday morning at the Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative 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 6 easels from the small groups of the night before were arrayed across the front of the room, 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, 6 key issues emerged as important to study for the future of Lyndeborough. This list is presented below along with some of the related ideas that were mentioned.

## Key Issues

1. Citizen Engagement
2. Preservation of Rural Character
3. Communication
4. Infrastructure
5. Caring for Our Citizens
6. Creating Identity and Sense of Place

## PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

After a short mid-morning break, participants each chose which of the 6 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 loud 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.

<b>IMPACT:</b> How much will it matter?	High			
	Moderate			
	Low			
		Low	Moderate	High
		<b>FEASIBILITY: How possible is it in our community?</b>		

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 are presented below.

## Key Issue #1 Citizen Engagement

Facilitator: Lois Kenick      Recorder: Lois Kennick      Spokesperson: Chase Roeper

Participants: Virginia Taylor, Kiersten Gregory, Mary Alice Fullerton

### Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- community events-sense of belonging, which can lead to involvement (potluck every season, some event regularly-links to community center)
- sense of belonging to a part of town as opposed to the town (Citizen Hall-which one, a town place)
- generated from get-togethers for all community members
- directory
- how the town meets an individual's needs (local shopping, services)
- coming together around common interests (teaching/education, sports, scouting, church, community service)
- political and social involvement issue:
- time constraints—town meets needs so people stay here
- voting—poll open times
- town office hours—different vs. more (1<sup>st</sup> Sat. or Wed. 'til 9)
- transportation for volunteers
- candidates/issues info. prior to meeting or events
- open Selectmen meetings—public input portion at each meeting
- thoughtful use of available opportunities to reach out (i.e. questionnaire on voting day; info. trifold at tax collection/town clerk)

### Possible Solutions:

#### Project 1:

- A. annual community festival  
strawberry/apple  
town “party”- with displays for sharing our passions  
for kids, adults, elders  
info/recruitment: F.I.S.H., LFDA, PTA, BSA, Conservation Commission, town committees
- B. seasonal events-special interest groups, farmers or neighborhoods

#### Project 2:

- A. a town directory of people, groups (contact person), services (contact person)-handed out by realtors, welcome
- B. fridge magnet with town office/dump hours-annual with town building sketch
- C. notepaper, postcards, t-shirts

#### Project 3:

Town survey to discern why people aren't involved and what would get them to get involved  
personal contact required  
reach teens and mids

#### Project Goals:

- citizen involvement pipeline with 11-12s, teens, young singles
- capitalizing on preserving and enjoying the knowledge & skills of our elders

## Project Evaluations:

### High Impact/High Feasibility

- Town survey to discern why people aren't involved and what would get them involved (eye contact)

### High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- Accessibility to offices (not more time, but different times—i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. AM or Wed. night 'til 9)
- A town directory of people, groups, services (w/ contact person)—for welcoming and info use

### High Impact/Low Feasibility

- Seasonal events
- Annual community festival

### Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- Citizen involvement pipeline with 10-12's, teens, young citizens—capitalizing on preserving and enjoying the knowledge of skills of our elders

### Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

### Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

### Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

### Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

### Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

## **Key Issue #2 Preservation of Rural Character**

Facilitator: Tracey Turner

Recorder: Angela Rapp

Spokesperson: Andy Roeper

Participants: Jill Landshor, Wendy Lazott, Steven Brooks, Peg Charpentier, Sue Carita, Kyle Oliver, Barbara Sim, Mark Bersen, Aaron Brown, and Tom Chicsenton

### Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed and possible solutions:

- preservation methods
- land trusts, conservation easements
- update zoning to preserve rural character and property rights
- habitat overlays
- conservation overlays
- build new development design guidelines
- economic incentives to preserve stone walls, open space and farm land
- creating Lyndeborough as a farm town

- communicating types of products available
- education on economic incentives to preserve open space and farm land
- Natural Resources Inventory and prioritizing lands and public access
- habitat maps
- scenic views/ridge views
- historic inventory

Project Goals:

- preservation methods
- land trusts
- conservation easements
- economic incentives to preserve stone walls, open space and farm land
- Conservation Master Plan
- natural resources inventory
- habitat maps

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- update zoning to preserve rural character and property rights
  - habitat overlays
  - conservation overlays

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- natural resources inventory and prioritizing lands & public access
  - habitat maps
  - historic places
  - scenic views/ridge views
- education on economic incentives to preserve open space and farm land
- preservation methods
  - land trusts
  - conservation easements

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- economic incentives to preserve stone walls, open space & farm land

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

### Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- build new development design guidelines

### Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- creating Lyndeborough as a farm town  
communicating types of products available

## **Key Issue #3 Communication**

Facilitator: Dwight Sowerby    Recorder: Margaret Hagen    Spokesperson: Cindy Geiger  
Participants: Cleveland, Sue Levesque, Karen Holland, Liz Todd, Gail Walleston, Wendy Baron

### Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- no communication other than word of mouth, newspapers
- need vehicle that introduces residents to home-based businesses
- need to know what's available: community group-wise, newsletter, welcome wagon, community services, local map, hiking trails
- need to know how to do things or who to take to i.e. zoning regulations, etc. (develop packets to give to people)
- citizen handbook
- how to address the problem of part-time town offices
- determine who to go to and put it in print
- Lyndeborough website for Citizen's Hall website-still up but not being updated
- how do you get information that you want to put into communications (who goes to meetings to relay info, etc?) make person who keeps minutes responsible for this
- core issue is that there's no one place to go for all the information people need (website as well as hard copy)
- hard to accomplish much until there's a good solid base for communication
- need to cover town operational things as well as the social and services; input and output (2-way communication)

### Possible Solutions/Project Goals:

- community bulletin boards
- community newsletter
- resident handbook
- PC in lobby of town offices for people to get in and also input information
- drop-off point for suggestions/info; points of contacts for individual projects
- someone needs to be in charge of whole effort; others need to be in charge of smaller pieces
- expand/develop website
- create partnership with local fire/police to advertise volunteer, supply needs
- boards need to communicate agendas & minutes to media
- need objective reporting; boards & minute takers need to supply minutes within a specified amount of time (72, 92 hours, etc.)
- use Community Profile database as a starting point for communication
  
- form partnership with the schools and the youth; have some students do reporting for their schools, activities
- display cases in Citizen's Hall to highlight town businesses, history, etc. (involve historical society, artillery)
- include old news/history in newsletter and on website (by time periods) and keep adding on
- do verbal histories-get library involved (store tapes there as well)
- make sure we have an ongoing pictorial history; include pictures of things as they are now
- town should own digital camera, scanner, printer, other equipment, software
- need warrant article to fund this effort (next town meeting)

### Project Evaluations:

#### High Impact/High Feasibility

- PC in lobby of town offices for information input/output

- people to be in charge of big and small pieces
- obtain needed equipment (digital camera, scanner, software, etc)

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- warrant articles to fund town communication project
- drop off point for suggestions and information
- resident handbook & welcome information for new residents
- expand/develop website
- agendas & minutes posted within a specified time
- use Community Profile database for starting point for communication

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- oral histories (recording, archiving)

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- display cases in Citizen’s Hall to highlight history, businesses, etc.

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- partnerships with local fire and police to gather information about their needs
- partnerships with schools and students to do reporting for school group activities
- include history in newsletter
- community bulletin boards (electronic & hard copy)

Low Impact/High Feasibility

None

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- keep ongoing pictorial history; baseline pictorial history

**Key Issue #4 Town Infrastructure**

Facilitator: not noted      Recorder: not noted      Spokesperson: Marge Hallyburton  
 Participants: Bruce Geiger, Scott Johnson, Carolyn McEntee, Edward Motiau, Bob Rogers, Jim Button, Nadine Preftakes,  
 Ann Harklsrood, Ron Baron

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- separation of “town” issues from “school” issues
- separation of fire department issues from police department issues
- no vision for town
- physically larger grammar school
- physically larger library
- substation for fire department
- location to store historical document
- more space for police
- space for Lafayette Artillery
- community center for all groups

- use of school for other programs
- public land to build school, etc.
- recreation
- enforce existing laws relative to “cleaning up” town
- place for town social gatherings

roads:

- preserve rural roads
- create road “hierarchy
- subdivision rules re: design standards
- access to emergency services
- bridges
- consulting services for private road residents

Possible Solutions/Project Goals:

- upgrades for bridges, roads on C.I.P.
- Temple Bridge upgrade is proceeding
- new elementary school will free up space for: senior center, library, police dept. (current library becomes Historical Society & Lafayette Artillery
- reserve fund for purchasing land
- new building to house fire and police
- add public library to new grammar school
- create town administrator/code enforcer

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- new grammar school/public library–free up space for senior center, community center, historical society

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- create town administrator/code enforcement position

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- upgrades for roads/ bridges on C.I.P.
- utilities RSMS for road maintenance

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- reserve fund for land purchase, public parks, recreation, etc.

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- new substation for fire & police

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

## Key Issue #5 Caring For Our Citizens

Facilitator: Linda Foster

Recorder: Jessie Salisbury

Spokesperson: Rick Roy

Participants: Ruth Johnston, Nick Taylor, Kathy Motta, Edna Worcester, Gloria St. Laurent, Noel St. Laurent, Rick Roy, Kate McClure

### Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed/possible solutions/project goals:

#### Infants & Toddlers:

- visiting nurses-referred or not
- regional services available (So. NH Services)
- town handbook needed
- connect professional residents
- establish a network-consider liability
- public health officer
- immunization clinics and information for uninsured and uninformed
- childcare needed
- visiting nurses
- parenting classes
- women's and infants
- immunizations
- So. NH Services & other agencies

#### School Age-Teenagers:

- ditto of above
- public kindergarten
- after school programs (funds are available?)
- Goss Park-youth leagues available
- use school resources
- need a late school bus
- communication about services
- expand Goss Park and add hours
- concerts and dances
- Healthy Kids insurance
- DARE
- substance abuse training
- Crotched Mtn. Rehab programs
- tap into service organizations
- Lyndeborough Performing Arts
- newsletter

#### Elderly:

- elderly housing/assisted living (change zoning to permit)
- affordable housing (tax base to make it possible)
- transportation: what is available?
- elder day care
- Meals on Wheels
- community center
- tax relief for the elderly

### Project Evaluations:

#### High Impact/High Feasibility

- community center
- housing for elderly

- assisted living
- change zoning to permit
- affordable housing
- tax base to make it possible

#### High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- childcare needed
- healthy kids-resource
- Crotched Mtn. Rehab. Programs
- tap into service organizations
- newsletter
- community center
- tax relief
- connect professional residents (establish a network –consider liability)
- town handbook
- welcome wagon
- services (Visiting Nurses, parenting classes, Women and Infants, immunization program)
- well-child clinic
- immunization clinics and info. for uninsured and uninformed
- public health officer as coordinator
- public kindergarten
- after-school programs
- breakfast program
- Lyndeborough Performing Arts

#### High Impact/Low Feasibility

- tax relief for the elderly

#### Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

none

#### Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

#### Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- substance abuse education
- DARE program

#### Low Impact/High Feasibility

- transportation for elderly
- elderly day care
- Meals on Wheels

#### Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- Fish & Game
- concerts and dances
- Goss Park, league available
- communication about services
- late school bus
- expand Goss Park hours

#### Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

## Key Issue #6 Creating Identity and Sense of Place

Facilitator: Walter Holland

Recorder: Mike Fimbel

Spokesperson: James Lazott

Participants: Elizabeth Raymond, Lisa deLongchamp, Jerry Levesque, Jen Wight, Pat Nelson, Sue Brodie

### Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- underlying note is the geographical divisions of the town
- disparity between outside negative image and internal image
- newcomers have a different connection to the town—the old timers
- continuing community traditions (actively protect)
- hayfields
- hunting, fishing, snowshoeing, hiking, horses
- blueberries, apples
- sugaring
- Lafayette Artillery
- arts, dancing
- farming (re: animals)
- educational efforts for local history and culture
- investment vs. love of community

### Possible Solutions/Project Goals:

- multi-generational activities, interaction and mentoring
- town grant writer
- welcome signs
- identify historic properties & sites
- maps for trail network
- community center (& where?)
- Old Home Days
- instilling Lyndeborough history and heritage as part of schooling—possible “Lyndeborough Week” in school
- spontaneous gathering spots such as town garden with historic heirloom plantings

### Project Evaluations:

#### High Impact/High Feasibility

- educate landowners on use of land/maps for trails

#### High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

#### High Impact/Low Feasibility

- promoting Lyndeborough history & heritage
- Old Home Days
- ongoing education in school
- multi-generations activities
- community center (using existing building)

#### Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

none

#### Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

### Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- town grant writer
- identify historic properties and sites

### Low Impact/High Feasibility

- historical town garden (plants)

### Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

### Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- welcome signs

## **Saturday Afternoon 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. Judy Bush led a short discussion about whether some projects overlapped and could be combined with other closely related ones. In the list of projects below, the ones which were combined or dropped from consideration are enclosed in brackets. [.....]

Every participant received five adhesive dots to use to “vote” on projects they thought were important for Lyndeborough to work on right away. Each voter could place as many dots as they wished by any project, distributing their five votes as they pleased. The projects receiving the most votes would then be discussed in small groups. The list of project ideas follows. The number of votes each received is also noted.

### **Key Issue #1 Citizen Engagement**

1. Annual festival and seasonal events (party/parade, recruit people) **(27 votes)**
2. [Town directory to include: people, offices/office holder, mentors, social groups]
3. Town survey to discover ways to increase everyone’s involvement **(9 votes)**
  - face-to-face data collection
  - reaches all populations

### **Key Issue #2 Preservation**

1. Preservation Methods **(23 votes)**
  - land trusts
  - conservation easements
  - economic incentives to preserve stone walls, open space & farm land
2. Reserve fund for land purchase **(19 votes)**
  - parks
  - recreation
  - social gathering location

3. Sub-station for fire and police **(6 votes)**

### **Key Issue #3 Communication**

1. Write a warrant article for communication needs, equipment, supplies (\$5,000) to cover:
  - community newsletter
  - resident handbook
  - website **(37 votes)**
  - drop-off boxes for suggestions/information
  - bulletin boards (electronic/hard copy)
2. Recruiting volunteers to be in charge and soliciting donations **(5 votes)**
3. Establish community partnerships with: **(2 votes)**
  - schools
  - law enforcement
  - fire
  - social groups
  - town government
  - other town groups

### **Key Issue #4 Infrastructure**

1. Grammar school/public library–free space for: **(44 votes)**
  - community center
  - senior center
  - historical society/Lafayette Artillery
2. Conservation Master Plan **(34 votes)**
  - natural resources inventory
  - habitat maps
  - historic places
  - scenic views/ridge views
3. Education on economic incentives to preserve open space & farm land **(9 votes)**

### **Key Issue #5 Caring For Citizens**

1. Tax relief for elderly **(11 votes)**
2. [Communication of existing services and agencies, volunteers, handbook, newsletter, website and video]
3. Community Center **(10 votes)**
4. elderly housing
5. teen center

### **Key Issue #6 Creating Identity and a Sense of Place**

1. [Community Center]

2. Promoting Lyndeborough history & heritage (ie. Old Home Days, education in school, multi-generational activities) **(19 votes)**
3. [Maps for trails (including landowner partnership & education)]

## **ACTION STEPS**

After the voting, the group decided to focus in on the top 5 projects. These were:

Grammar School-plan for freeing space  
 Communication  
 Conservation Master Plan  
 Annual Festival and Events  
 Preservation Methods

Participants once again self-selected themselves into small groups according to the project that interested them most. Each group was asked to define the following:

- Critical Steps to Implementation
- Resources Needed
- Principal Leadership (group or individual)
- Potential Obstacles with Possible Strategies to Overcome Them
- Timeline for Implementation
- Action Step Coordinator

Some of the groups used these steps as a way to focus their discussions and notes, while others did not. Hence, the reports that follow are in a number of different formats:

### **Infrastructure: School/Library Plan**

Facilitator: Burton Reynolds    Recorder: Matt Waitkins    Spokesperson: Marge Hallybarton  
 Participants: Robert Rogers, Chase Roeper, Gloria St.Laurent, Nadine Preftakes, Sue Carita, Ann Harkleroad, Jim Button, Edna Worcester, Carylyn McEntee, Rick McQuade, Scott Johnson

#### Critical Steps to Implementation:

- develop a comprehensive plan that will meet space needs of our community responsibilities

#### Resources Needed:

- Fire Department space committee
- Library space needs committee
- School space needs committee
- Artillary space needs
- Historical Society space needs
- Police space needs
- 2002 Warrant Article (\$15,000) for engineering/design
- committee members

#### Principal Leadership:

- Selectmen
- library

- school board/staff
- fire, police, fire dept. auxiliary
- PTA
- Planning Board
- conservation committee
- budget committee
- historical/Artillary
- new faces

Potential Obstacles/Strategies to Overcome Them:

- money-state funding or grants
- land-form a committee with subcommittees to cover:
- research of potential sights
- research of school/library design
- utilization of freed-up space
- cooperation-partners who are working on space issues
- time commitment from volunteers

Timeline for Implementation:

- establish committee
- publicity for follow-up meeting

Action Step Coordinator:

- Stuff phone bill (Marge)
- Call individuals
- Article in newspapers (Bob)
- Call chairs of individual existing committees (Ann)
- Flyers at school (Nadine)

**Next meeting: October 22, 2001 @ 7:30 at Citizen's Hall**

**Contact: Marge Hallyburton 654-2326**

**Communication**

Facilitator: Dwight Sowerby      Recorder: Margaret Hagen      Spokesperson: Wendy Baron  
 Participants: Wendy Baron, Karen Halland, Sue Levesque, Cynthia Geiger, Mary Alice Fullerton, Liz Todd,  
 Michael Cleveland, Gail Walleston

Critical Steps to Implementation:

Goals and Objectives:

to communicate to all residents what it is we're about, what we offer, activities, etc. "Who, What, Where, When, How"

- to pull together the community with common information
- move complete participation in civic/social events, town government
- to get the warrant article approved
- to get the volunteers to consistently keep this project going
- establish an information clearinghouse

Existing Initiatives:

- Citizen's Hall website
- database of names, addresses, phone (need people who rent)
- bulletin boards (Village Store)
- check with local towns who have existing websites, etc. to see how they accomplished their goal (Milford website, etc.)
- P.O. and library have town reports

- newspapers
- school newsletters (private and public)
- Pinnacle Mtn., Artillery newsletters, Tarn Rd. Assoc. newsletter, church bulletin

### Resources Needed:

- space to house equipment (public vs. private space for town appropriated equipment)
- use existing equipment or software to start on small scale (paper, postage-only things that can't be borrowed)
- reporters, researchers, web creator/master, web host
- get reports from town committees

### Principal Leadership:

- decide what you're trying to do and then get names of people who know how
- profile attendees
- representatives of town boards (someone from Budget Committee to explain how to get warrant article passed—want BC to recommend passage)
- Selectmen (on what level?)
- Wilton/Milford Main Street committees as an initial resource (how to get it off the ground)
- School Board member
- chairs/convenors of other Profile committees

### Potential Obstacles and Solutions:

- getting volunteers to write warrant article (Liz Todd and Karen Halland agree to do 25-50% of the writing and work with Selectmen)
- start soliciting donations and support for this project until the warrant article gets passed or there are enough donations
- form a small committee to meet quarterly (for potluck?) and exchange progress reports (pulled from all Profile committees)
- hold a candidate night to allow everyone to get acquainted with candidates and promote communications Warrant Article
- do a potluck at Town Meet to draw larger attendance (don't take fundraising capacity from another group)
- store doesn't want to serve as drop off point (library, PO)
- human resource problems (Indians, Chiefs, expertise, comfort levels); poll volunteers to find out their expertise and the amount of time they can give
- time (the more you try to accomplish the more time is involved); empower people to act independently (within check points, guidelines)

### Timeline for Implementation:

- get on agenda for next Selectmen's meeting (for 9/17) Liz and Karen
- Mary Alice will ask steering committee for \$\$ within the next 2 weeks
- Gail will have article to Mike Cleveland on 9/17 for Cabinet
- target 1<sup>st</sup> issue of newsletter for early November (November 9)
- November 1<sup>st</sup> as deadline for information submission from boards/groups
- contact Planning Board (9/20), ZBA (9/25), Selectmen (9/17), Budget Committee for a face-to-face meeting to acquaint them with Communications Committee's goals and objectives, etc.
- shoot for 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter issue in early February (send out 2/8; deadline 2/1)

### Action Steps:

- Karen & Liz need to meet with Selectmen
- how many issues of newsletter before town meeting
- before next meeting, committee members brainstorm ideas to meet communication components (newsletter, website, handbook)
- 2 approaches:
  - work on all at once
  - work on them one at a time
- ask Profile steering committee for \$\$ for newsletter
- Gail will write article to go in Cabinet to solicit more committee members
- first issue by November 9
- contact boards and town groups for article/content submission by November 1

**Next steps: Gail Walleston (654-3044) volunteers to hold the next meeting (September 26 at 7pm) at her house (248 Crooked S Road) with coffee/appetizers/cookies. She will call to remind committee members.**

**\*\*Articles for 1<sup>st</sup> issue due November 1 to Walleston@aol.com\*\***

## **Conservation Master Plan**

Facilitator: Tracey Turner

Recorder: Kyle Oliver

Spokesperson: Peg Charpentier

Participants: Jill Landshof, Susan Cheever, Bruce Geiger, Jerry Levesque, Steven Brooks, Andy Roeper, Barbara

Sim, Pat Nelson, Lise deLongchamp, Aaron Brown

### Critical Steps to Implementation:

obtain Natural Resource Inventory

- get baseline data

habitat maps

- assemble volunteer groups
- educate-what to inventory
- contact landowners
- conduct mapping
- identify historic places
- contact Historical Society
- meet property owners
- communicate value of conservation to the town
- foster good relations with landowners and address concerns

educate future generations

- identify scenic areas/ridge views & increase public awareness and access
- to prioritize protection goals
- increase public access
- educate–leave no trace ethics

### Possible Solutions:

obtain Natural Resources Inventory:

- initiate through Conservation Commission request to NRPC
- identify regional conservation resources and resources from other towns (Jill and Aaron)
- ID supplementary data post-NRPC review (Andy)
- create habitat maps
- habitat mapping training opportunity on October 20?
- communicate/Educate ongoing:

- hunter education - Pinnacle

identify scenic areas/ridge views & increase public awareness and access:

- land (LCHIP) -grants
- scenic roads list in Master Plan

identify historic places:

- Historic Society

### Principal Leadership:

obtain Natural Resource Inventory:

- Conservation Commission (Andy)

create habitat maps:

- Kyle Oliver, Aaron, Lise, Robert Sim, Tracey, Andy, Steven, Peg, Jill, Chris Cook (resources–time, training, mapping)

communicate/educate ongoing:

- Tracey, Kyle

identify scenic areas/ridge views & increase public awareness and access:

- Tracey, Kyle, Barbara, Andy, Chris Cook

identify historic places:

- Aaron, Jerry

### Timeline for Implementation:

obtain Natural Resources Inventory:

- ASAP

create habitat maps:

- 12-18 months

communicate/educate ongoing:

- ongoing

identify scenic areas/ridge views & increase public awareness and access:

- 12-18 months

identify historic places

- 6 months

### Action Steps:

obtain Natural Resource Inventory:

- contact Conservation Commission

First step: September 18, 2001

create habitat maps:

- training session
- field trips

First step: training class

communicate/educate ongoing:

- hikes led by specialists
- talks
- newsletter articles and info
- create conservation vision statement
- educational partnership with schools

First step: newsletter article, hikes

identify scenic areas/ridge views & increase public awareness and access:

- supplementing existing scenic roads info.
- hike to identify scenic areas
- interviews-survey favorite spots/views
- map scenic routes, hiking paths and create brochure with ethics (litter)
- contact Tom Chrisenden about Greenway idea

First step: September 18, 2001

identify historic places:

- First step: meeting with Historical Society

## **Annual Festival**

Facilitator: Lois Kenick      Recorder: Walter Holland      Spokesperson: Virginia Taylor

Participants: Jen Wight, Ruth Johnston, Kiersten Gregory, Ron Baron, Nick Taylor, James Lazott

### Critical Steps to Implementation:

Goal: An event that no one wants to miss:

- a party

- venues to engage townspeople in community
- a place to showcase Lyndeborough
- a time for smaller town groups to get exposure and participate

#### Existing Initiatives:

- LFD Haunted House
- LA Memorial Day
- LFD Aux. Santa/Tree light
- LFD Aux. Easter egg
- Feb. Washington birthday ball
- election/voting day activities
- town meeting
- book/plan sale (Mem. Day, library)
- book fair-school
- LFD yard sale
- ice cream social (PTA)
- Halloween parade

#### Resources Needed:

- money
- materials
- people who have done this before in Lyndeborough and other towns
- out of town donors (Nelson's Hitchner's, special skills-lawyers)

#### Principal Leadership:

- Walter-convener/notify other groups
- Jen-newspapers
- LFD & Aux
- library committee
- friends of the library
- Fish and Game
- Lafayette Artillery
- Selectmen
- PTA
- church
- improvement
- society
- scouts
- townspeople
- Nick/Virginia Taylor (2601)
- Jen (5076)
- Kiersten (2228)
- Walter (2480)
- Jim (9763)

#### Potential Obstacles/Solutions:

- volunteers
  - appeal to other town groups and use media in advance
- legal issues
  - investigate
- transportation & parking
  - volunteers dependent on location
- appealing theme (Lyndeborough Fair)
  - should be consistent (name & time; non-limiting name)
- where
  - Lyndeborough Center/Carnival Hill
- liability

- insurance
- costs
- donations/warrant article

### Action Steps:

- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting (October 10 @ 7pm at Citizen's Hall)
- notify other groups
- reserve a date
- select chairperson
- create committees
- identify core people

**First step: October 10 at 7pm**  
**Call Walter Holland (654-2480)**

### **Preservation**

Facilitator: Linda Foster    Recorder: Jessie Salisbury    Spokesperson: Wendy Lazott  
 Participants: Sue Brodie, Richard Herfurth, John Giese, Matt Bersen, Rick Roy

### Critical Steps to Implementation:

- land trusts such as SPNHF
- conservation easements (lower taxes)
- current use (lower taxes)
- education needed on tax break
- better incentives needed to keep open space part of communication
- 10% of land use penalty goes to conservation commission
- inventory needed
- elevation zoning in effect and soils
- selling or transfer/development of rights
- town owned land
- open space zoning
- encourage bequests of land and donations
- other incentives need to be feasible
- need to be proactive
- set examples
- list donors of any contribution—give recognition
- raise current use change tax
- inventory can change zoning
- establish a heritage commission
- educating the public on resources, finance and tax issues and incentives
- increased incentives to preserve open space
- encourage agriculture

### Resources Needed:

- NH Charitable Foundation
- UNH Cooperative Extension
- SPNHF
- Space
- LCHIP
- Finance and tax advisor
- NH Farm Bureau

### Timeline for Implementation:

- Rick Roy to set meeting about October 20

### Action Steps:

- educate people on what we currently have
- explore new opportunities, incentives for open land-regionally

## **CONCLUSION**

Each small group reported back their plans to the entire group. The full group discussed next steps to keep up the momentum from the Profile, with each group appointing someone to maintain contact with the Lyndeborough Profile Steering Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30.

# APPENDIX

## Lyndeborough Community Profile Participants

Dwight Sowerby  
Virginia Taylor  
Rick Roy  
Richard Herfurth  
Barbara Shinn  
Rosie Howe  
Edger Howard  
Jerry Reneau  
Mark Weissfloy  
Diane Weissfloy  
Tanya Weissfloy  
Gloria St. Laurent  
Susan Coronis  
Chris Cooke  
Burton Reynolds  
Karen Holland  
Aaron Brown  
Helen Van Hamm  
Liz Todd  
Peg Charpentier  
Kathie Beltz  
Edward Mottau  
Kathleen Mottau  
Nick Taylor  
Marge Hallyburton  
Karen Onybla  
Lois Kenick  
Matt Waitkins  
Ruth Johnston  
Scott Johnson  
Jeanne Adams  
John Morison  
Evelyn Beran  
Karen Hews  
Corey Cheever  
Carolyn McEntee  
Cindy Ginn  
Bob Lewis  
Ron Baron  
Patrick Gillam  
Randolph Beltz  
Edna Worcester  
Kate McClure  
Lisa deLongchamp  
Pat Nelson

Linda Foster  
Jessie Salisbury  
Gail Walleston  
Bruce Geiger  
Steve Gilson  
Bob Rogers  
Jim MacMahon  
Paul Turner  
Edna Worcester  
Sue Levesque  
Virginia Brooks  
Dennis Adams  
Jim Button  
Wendy Baron  
Walter Holland  
Mike Fimbel  
Phil Brooks  
Scott Bois  
Chase Roeper  
Sue Brodie  
Cindy Geiger  
Mike Kaelin  
Jerry Levesque  
Nadine Preftakes  
Debra MacMahon  
Sally Curran  
Kiersten Gregory  
Elizabeth Raymond  
Tracey Turner  
Ann Roeper  
Ann Harkleroad  
Sue Carita  
Kyle Oliver  
Jill Landshor  
Mary Alice Fullerton  
Barbara Sim  
Susan Cheever  
Wendy Lazott  
Steven Brooks  
Mark Bersen  
Tom Chicsenton  
Noel St. Laurent  
James Lazott  
Jen Wight  
Rick McQuade

John Giese

Lyndeborough Community Profile Facilitators and Recorders

Kyle Oliver  
Dwight Sowelby  
Burton Reynolds  
Alice Mullen  
Lois Kenick  
Matt Waitkins  
Linda Foster  
Jessie Salisbury  
Walter Holland  
Mike Fimbel  
Tracey Turner  
Angela Rapp

Margaret Hagen

Lyndeborough Community Profile Steering Committee

Liz Todd  
Ruth Johnston  
Marge Hallyburton  
Jessie Salisbury  
Helen Van Ham  
Nancy Tobi  
Kathy Mottau  
Evelyn Harwood  
Maryalice Fullerton  
Fran Houston  
Walter Holland  
Cyndi Geiger  
Sue Cheever  
Ed Mottau  
Jim Button