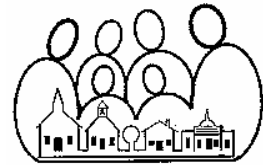




UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE
Cooperative Extension



DUMMER COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT

Dummer, New Hampshire
May 9 & 10, 2003

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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 and are the "tools" of the community's self-assessment.

Creating A Community Profile in Dummer

History

Sarah Cordwell and Rachel Holt Jewett gave a brief history of Dummer. They spoke about historic sites (such as foundations, older homes, schools, mills, etc) that existed in the past and how the settlers ended up here and started on the west side of Dummer, logging the big pine trees to be utilized for masts on the English ships. The early settlers started farming the land, had the right mix of animals for living use; cows for milk, meat and plowing the fields; and a horse for transportation. Maple syrup was used as their sweetener as they stored it as sugar blocks and could cut off pieces as needed and grew flax to make cloth and dyed it with tea or flowers. The Androscoggin River was valuable for transportation and log drives as there was a sawmill on the river bank. They made timbers and boards and there was also a cedar shingle mill operating. As we look at our history book, many went off to school to become lawyers, doctors, teachers, agriculturists and military men. Much of the information shared will be utilized to update our history book.

**UNH Cooperative Extension
Dummer Community Profile
May 9 & 10, 2003
Agenda**

Friday Evening

5:30 Sign-In & Pot-Luck Supper

6:30 Welcome - Charlie French, Extension Specialist, Community and Economic Development • Overview of Community Profile Process

- Who is here?

Mosaic and Vision

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

Historical Overview -

- Where has Dummer been?

7:45 Presentation of Community Profile components

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

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 Dummer in the component area
- Challenges of Dummer 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 small groups report to the large group, three minutes each.

9:15 Selection of key 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 Full Group: 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 Dummer right now?

12:45 Project development: small groups

- Principal leadership
- Resources needed
- List of who's missing to be included in follow-up meeting

1:00 Full group: report back from small groups

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

Community Profile

Friday Evening

The Community Profile was conducted at Dummer Town Hall over two days: Friday evening, May 9, 2003 and all day Saturday, May 10, 2003. About 35 participants attended on Friday with approximately 16 people attending on Saturday. The list of attendees was slightly different each day.

The event began on Friday with a potluck supper. 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 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 Dummer like today?

- peaceful, quiet rural town
- slow growth
- tight knit
- scenic
- historical
- interesting name
- uncomplicated
- kids are educated
- "treehouse" opportunities, appreciative of outdoors
- youth out - migration
- big natural feature - Pontook
- remarkably well-educated
- dominant land owner (2/3 of town), always taken for granted (access)
- corporate landowner may not share the same vision for the land
- concerned about future non-taxpaying landowner(s)
- dispersed
- friendly
- not congested
- rural
- high commute
- dependent (on services) from outside

- boring to youth
- aging population
- economically diverse

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

- small community
- more citizen involvement in town offices
- affordable tax rate
- paved roads
- access to river and woods – may be trails?
- attractive to families
- dog sled trails
- employment opportunities for young adults
- keep government out –let us run it ourselves
- local employment thru tourism (etc.)
- paved shoulders (on the roadway)
- manageable growth, property values
- access to other part of Dummer without going thru Milan
- peaceful, quiet, rural, with slow growth, tight knit, much like it is today
- that our children will go to a school with a good, strong, educational program – more input
- for youth to know more about the history of Dummer

COMMUNITY PROFILE SIX COMPONENTS

After we developed a mosaic and vision for Dummer and digested some of the history, Charlie French introduced us to the idea of discussing Dummer within the framework of 6 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

Informed Citizen Participation and Community Leadership

Community Infrastructure

Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth and Lifelong Learning
Community Services, Facilities, Utilities & Transportation
Sense of Community and Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Environment

Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Economy

Economic Vitality and Growth and Development

Next, 3 small groups of approximately 8 people each were randomly formed, each group examining 2 the components each. The small groups adjourned to various rooms where UNH Cooperative Extension staff lead the groups in their discussions and made notes on more large tablets. Each group considered the definition of their components and examined the statements to be considered for their components to begin the discussion. Participants were asked to list the strengths of Dummer 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. Informed Citizen Participation and Community Leadership

Facilitator: Sue Buteau

Recorder: Helene Grobman

Spokesperson: Chris Holt

Participants: Doris Bergeron, Eloise Croteau, Georgette Doucette, Faith Kimball, Chris Holt, Heidi Holt, Lorraine Croteau, Rose Soldano

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. All citizens need to develop knowledge and skills to contribute to community life. All sectors within a community—private, public and nonprofit—must each take responsibility for the community's civic education and generate and share information with the public. Sharing in problem solving and planning for the future as a community increases pride in the community and can result in an ethic of giving and sharing as a way of life.

Group Response - Strengths:

- being here today – Selectmen support
- cross section - ages
- Octoberfest – church sponsors (keeps people together and fundraises)
- strawberry festival
- no more hunter supper
- harvest fest for library
- independent fundraiser for library and soup supper
- sense of independence
- community built nondenominational church
- trips to Libby's – neighborhood events
- elections – pretty good turnout
- filled two town positions this year
- friendly, helpful people especially to elderly
- lot of volunteers
- good communication
- food pantry at church

Group Response - Challenges:

- lack of time with young families
- no school – always traveling
- loss of contact with family who have relocated
- youth - out migration
- lack of time
- hard to get people to serve on committees/boards
- restrictions on river
- threats to free access
- few opportunities for community get togethers
- youth scattered

- transportation
- high elder population
- snow birds
- lack of interest/involvement

Vision for the Future:

- more citizenship participation
- more civic participation
- more functions to bring 2 sides of town together
- more get togethers
- keep young people here
- training programs – leadership (*local)
- protection from liability issues
- well publicized community forums
- community web page

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Home rule
2. Sharing important community information
3. Local leadership training
4. Good community functions
5. Getting young people involved

2. Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals, Youth & Lifelong Learning

Facilitator: Sue Buteau

Recorder: Helene Grobman

Spokesperson: Chris Holt

Participants: Doris Bergeron, Eloise Croteau, Georgette Doucette, Faith Kimball, Chris Holt, Heidi Holt, Lorraine Croteau, Rose Soldano

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 members.

Group Response - Strengths:

- lots of school activities – even though they leave town
- everybody knows everybody
- open space – country living
- wonderful recreation
- great town to retire in
- take care of our own
- great natural resources
- high level of adult literacy
- high cross section of professions
- low crime rate
- wildlife in natural habitat
- accessible social programs (senior meals, hospice, home health)

Group Response - Challenges:

- donor community for school funding
- high taxes
- redistricting
- county taxes
- school tuition
- too much homework for kids
- backpacks too heavy
- hold onto good things for children
- prescription costs for elderly
- health insurance costs

Vision for the Future:

- continued support for elderly
- stable tax rate
- less homework for kids
- better representation
- continued recreation opportunities
- preserve habitat
- continued home rule

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Stable tax rate/better government representation
2. Continued home rule
3. Preserving habitat/recreation
4. Support for elderly
5. Better balance of family and school

3. Community Services, Facilities, Utilities & Transportation

Facilitator: Sam Stoddard

Recorder: Sarah Dagostino

Spokesperson: Joanne Belleau

Participants: Joanne Belleau, Oneil Croteau, Marcel Campbell, Brad Wyman, Sue Wyman, Sue Solar, Elizabeth Ruediger

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 pedestrians and bicycle travel and bus and rail transportation.

Group Response - Strengths:

- library/historical society
- church (new)
- simple infrastructure
- welfare, senior meals, etc. (available/outsourced)
- garbage collection/recycling (outsourced)
- road agent/town garbage
- utilities > the Dam/pipeline
- safe biking (but rough)
- excellent town hall
- Libedey Garden
- boat landing on river
- lack of law enforcement (this is a strength)

Group Response - Challenges:

- boat landing (non-motorized only)
- emergency services (inadequate response)
- geographical isolation (river is an obstacle)
- better paved roads (too bumpy, too narrow)
- guard rails along roads/river
- high speed internet

Vision for the Future:

- well-maintained, paved road system
- more volunteers for community (town) offices
- guard rails (East Side Road)
- build a bridge > connect the community
- better emergency management
- preserve the character of our small town

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Growth planning
2. Town forest – productive
3. Engage in regional issues – employment and services
4. Strengthen local volunteerism
5. Improve recreational opportunities – bike, trail, boat

4. Economic Vitality and Growth and Development

Facilitator: Sam Stoddard

Recorder: Sarah Dagostino

Spokesperson: Joanne Belleau

Participants: Joanne Belleau, Oneil Croteau, Marcel Campbell, Brad Wyman, Sue Wyman, Sue Solar, Elizabeth Reudiger

Statement of Purpose:

The need to maintain flourishing workplaces is of great importance to communities. A sustainable community includes a variety of businesses, industries, and institutions which are environmentally sound, financially viable, provide reasonable wages and benefits to workers, and provides those workers with opportunities to develop their skills through training, education, and other forms of assistance to prepare for the community's future needs. Government, businesses and public service organizations are all important in attracting new investment and in developing new businesses that suit the character of the community.

Group Response - Strengths:

- slow growth and development
- Planning Board
- natural resources (river/woods)
- potential for tourist-type activities (camping ie. Derby Lodge)
- potential for town forest

Group Response - Challenges:

- lack of vibrant job market

- 2/3 of property owned by one entity (tax implications, limited access)

Vision for the Future:

- as little growth as possible
- unposted forest land (public access)
- forest that is producing
- develop employment opportunities on a regional basis

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

Combined with Component #3

5. Sense of Community and Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Facilitator: Steve Turaj

Recorder: Larry Barker

Spokesperson: Claudette Moynihan

Participants: Wayne Moynihan, Jody Camille, Lisa Campbell, Claudette Moynihan, Bruce Kimball, Mark Gagnon

Statement of Purpose:

Recreational 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.

Group Response - Strengths:

- people with vast knowledge/history
- people with intimate knowledge of natural resources/landscape
- Strawberry festival/hunter diner
- church
- new library – w/activities
- children's reading programs
- genuine openness/hospitality is 1st rate, very welcoming
- extended community – good relationships/interactions w/ neighboring towns
- land open for use – multiple use
- natural beauty – aesthetic appeal, relatively pristine

Group Response - Challenges:

- lack of public gathering places
- distance between population clusters – we're 3 villages
- large parcels of land not locally controlled
- three separate entities (because of population clusters)
- land use management/zoning town may be confused? Lack of clarity, too much government/too little?

Vision for the Future:

- clarify growth vs. local control issues
- town website to foster communications
- capture/record the rich cultural, historic, natural resource knowledge base from the town's experts – have a community sharing event/tours
- re-publish town's history – update
- develop a historic society
- develop a natural resource society
- create some sort of event to bring 3 town clusters together

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Capture/celebrate the rich cultural, historic and natural resource knowledge base
2. Develop a common cause/connections between the 3 Dummies
3. Initiate a town conversation about how we want to grow

6. Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Facilitator: Steve Turaj

Recorder: Larry Barker

Spokesperson: Claudette Moynihan

Participants: Wayne Moynihan, Jody Camille, Lisa Campbell, Claudette Moynihan, Bruce Kimball, Mark Gagnon

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.

Group Response - Strengths:

- river is pristine – people respect it
- Pontook is a community resource – bird life, fisheries
- woodlands, trees are a resource
- whitewater rapids – well utilized
- Paul Bofinger area
- spectacular views of mountains

- skiing trails/snowmobile trails
- have natural resource inventory and conservation commission
- boom peeps in river
- Dummer Ponds
- Philips Brode recreation area
- active farms – fertile land – pastoral – along rivers, sugaring
- long range planning on solid waste

Group Response - Challenges:

- losing access to Mead Lands?
- lack of local control over 2/3 of town - uncertainty
- general development pressures
- real estate prices are low
- increasing recreational pressures/difficult to manage
- Cohos Trail impact? +/-

Vision for the Future:

- develop a town vision regarding how to/should we have more economic development of natural resources
- foster development of small, niche, valued added natural resources
- land/environmentally friendly businesses
- plan appropriately for growth
- regional planning re: natural resource

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Protect and promote opportunities for land-friendly, natural resource based industry – orchards, maple, niche businesses (small)
2. plan appropriately for land use
3. 2/3 of landscape has a single absentee corporate owner

Saturday Morning

Everyone reassembled bright and early Saturday morning at Dummer Town Hall, 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 5 easels from the small groups of the night before were arrayed across the front of the rooms, each bearing a list of the 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, 3 key issues emerged as important to study for the future of Dummer. This list is presented below along with some of the related ideas that were mentioned.

Key Issues

1. Natural/Land Resources
2. Local Control
3. Family and Citizen Support

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

After a short mid-morning break, participants each chose which of the 3 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 are presented below.

Key Issue #1 Natural/Land Resources

Facilitator: Sam Stoddard

Recorder: Claudette Moynihan Spokesperson: Wayne Moynihan

Participants: Wayne Moynihan, Brad Wyman, Faith Kimball, Bruce Kimball, Sue Wyman, Claudette Moynihan, Chris Holt

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- how best to preserve and develop our greatest asset *:
*Our natural resources after our Dummer citizens (of course)

Possible Solutions:

- bolster (Planning Board, Conservation Commission)
- promote small land friendly activities/business
- enhance by education, an appreciation of the Natural and Human history of the community
- Natural Resource Inventory
- designate town forest – develop & manage (timber + recreation)
- examine options and plan for if large landowners sell

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- designate town forest, develop and manage (timber and recreation)

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- examine options and plan for if large landowners sell
- natural resource inventory
- bolster Planning Board and Conservation Committee

High Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- enhance by education an appreciation of the natural and human history of the community

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- promote small land friendly activities/business

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Low Impact/High Feasibility
none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility
none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility
none

Key Issue #2 Local Control

Facilitator: Helene Grobman

Recorder: Michele Gagne Spokesperson: Oneil Croteau

Participants: Oneil Croteau, Elois Croteau, Georgette Doucette

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- people are not compassionate for those in public office
- fear of board members being sued
- lack of training
- the status of Dummer as a donor town
- socialism
- special consideration – boating no discrimination

Possible Solutions:

- open discussion meetings, discussing problems
- training sessions before people run for office
- computer training
- rule and regulations of the State
- writing letters to legislators in opposition to donor town status (socialism)
- encourage small businesses and recreation

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility
• open discussion meetings, discussing

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility
• training sessions before people run for office
• writing letters to legislators in opposition to donor town status (socialism)

High Impact/Low Feasibility
none

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

none

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- encourage small businesses and recreation

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- encourage small businesses and recreation

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Key Issue #3 Family and Citizen Support

Facilitator: Sue Buteau

Recorder: Sue Buteau

Spokesperson: Lorraine Croteau

Participants: Joane Belleau, Elizabeth Ruediger, Heidi Holt, Lorraine Croteau, Regina Elliott, Jody Camille

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- support for elderly
- good community functions
- strengthen local volunteerism
- local leadership training
- sharing important community information
- getting young people involved
- better balance of school/home life
- promote community calendar, including board meetings, on boards, web site, newsletter
- encourage parents to communicate homework load and its impact on family life
- directory of services and resources for all citizens and community organizations
- organize transportation for events
- encourage people to vote, help get people to the polls- make sure people know their vote is important
- find a way to recognize community volunteers
- keep a record of volunteer hours
- promote more local events
- develop a community newsletter
- develop a website

- develop a community action team to take care of things that don't get done. (clean up days, windows, bonfire pit, picnic shelter, playground, picnic tables)
- Dummer Old Home Day
- community day to celebrate Dummer history (oral history)
- update and reprint Dummer history
- map the "Cellar Holes" for history, ferry, points of historical interest (GPS)
- thru the schools: students "shadow" community leaders
- Selectmen: have a "Bring your children to a Selectmen's meeting night" other committees
- two parties: in each part of Dummer!
- "Welcome the Snowbirds back" party!
- used to sponsor Fish & Game banquet. Hunter suppers...get young people involved. Revive some of the good activities
- hobby day – sell, demonstrations
- recruit, train, manage, recognize volunteers

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- community day to celebrate Dummer history (oral history)
- promote community calendar, including board meetings, on boards, website, newspaper
- reprint/update Dummer history
- develop a website
- develop a community newsletter
- promote more local events
- thru the schools: "shadow" community leaders
- Selectmen: have a "bring your Children to a selectmen's meeting night", other committees too

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- encourage people to vote. Help get people to the polls. Make sure people know their vote is important
- keep a record of volunteer hours
- find a way to recognize community volunteers
- recruit, train, manage, recognize volunteers

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- none

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- map cellar holes for history, ferry, points of historical interest (GPS)

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- develop a community action to take care of things that don't get done. e.g. clean up days, bonfire pit, picnic tables/shelters

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- encourage parents to communicate homework load and its impact on family life

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- encourage parents to communicate homework load and its impact on family life

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- none

Saturday Afternoon PROJECT SELECTION

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 three adhesive dots to use to "vote" on the project in each theme they thought were important for Dummer to work on right away. Each voter placed a dot as they wished on one project within each topic so that there would be a priority project for each group to work on first. The projects receiving the most votes were then discussed in small groups. The list of project ideas follows.

#1 Natural Resources

1. Designate and develop town forest (**10 votes**)
2. Examine options and plan if large landowners sell (**9 votes**)
3. Enhance, by education, an appreciation of the natural and human history of the community (**8 votes**)

#2 Local Control

1. Writing letters to legislators in opposition to donor towns status **(0 votes)**
2. Encourage small business and recreation specific to employing local citizens **(0 votes)**

#3 Family and Citizen Support

1. Communications/parties . Create a community newsletter, a directory of services and resources, website and calendar and post all notices on the board to promote local events better. **(12 votes)**
2. Volunteerism: Record all volunteer hours in the community. Recognize all community volunteers that help recruit, train, manage and recognize. Develop a committee to do the things that don't always get done (clean-up days, picnic tables, build a bonfire pit, shelter, etc) **(9 votes)**

CONCLUSION

Each small group reported back their plans to the entire group. All action groups agreed to recruit additional members to work with their committees and will meet as a large group again on May 19, 2003 at 7 p.m. in the Dummer Town Hall to begin to establish goals and objectives to accomplish the individual projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

ACTION GROUPS

After the voting at the Profile event, the groups decided to focus in on the top project from each group. These are listed below.

Designate and Develop a Town Forest
Large Land Sale Contingency
Communication – History and Volunteerism

Each of the groups met to discuss who needed to be included in the follow-up meeting as well as some initial goals and projects while they were at the Profile event. Following are the goals of each group from that follow-up meeting on May 19, 2003.

Project #1 Designate and Develop a Town Forest

Members: Claudette Moynihan, Wayne Moynihan, Faith Kimball, Sue Wayne, Jody Camille

Action Steps:

- Each person will review management plan
- Get copy of tax map
- Take a hike on property (meet at Jody's)
- Identify abutters
- Research laws on establishing a town forest
- Plan hike in fall w/Sarah to describe historical features for townspeople
- Find out deadlines for placing proposal on town warrant
- Explore possibility of enlarging town forest w/Mead land that might be available

Convener: Faith Kimball @ 449-2138

Project #2 Large Land Sale Contingency

Members: Brad Wyman, Bruce Kimball, Chris Holt

Resources:

- Planning Board members
- Extension foresters
- LCDC (at SPNHF) – Brad will contact Digit Taylor and large land holders

Mission:

- Id the risks and options to address those risks of a large timberland sale

Action Steps:

- Make sure of our zoning ordinances and Master Plan
- Get copy of Lyme, NH (50 acres lots) were sold to build
- Look into adding Mead, IP Land into conservation easements in our zoning
- Combine Milan, Dummer Conservation Committee
- Talk with Concord about forest practices
- Recruit planning board – Bruce to see Sarah –then call Chris to follow up
- Seek advice from SPNHF (Brad)
- Follow-up meeting May 28th 7:00

Convener: Chris Holt @ 449-2402

Project #3 Communication – History and Volunteerism

Members: Joane Belleau, Heidi Holt, Regina Elliott, Georgette Doucette, Oneil Croteau, Eloise Croteau, Elizabeth Ruediger

Action Steps:

- Newsletter/directory
 NCIA – Jamie Oneil
 Continue website (Charlie)
- Volunteerism
- History book –reprinting

Convener: Lorraine Croteau @ 449-7378 (home) 752-2304 (work)

APPENDIX

Community Profile Participants

Joane Belleau
Mark Gagnon
Marcel Campbell
Lisa Campbell
Bob Barbin
Paula LaBrecque
Sue Solar
Faith Kimball
Bruce Kimball
Doris Bergeron
Brady Wyman
Sue Wyman
Chris Holt
Heidi Holt

Jody Camille
Georgette Doucette
Eloise H. Croteau
Claudette Moynihan
Elizabeth Ruediger
Rose Soldano
Regina Elliott
Oneil J. Croteau
Lorraine Croteau
Wayne Moynihan

Steering Committee

Joane Belleau (vice-chair)
Heidi Holt
Claudette Moynihan
Brad Wyman

Lorraine Croteau (chair)
Whitney Holt
Wayne Moynihan

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