

Currier and Ives Scenic and Cultural Byway Byway Committee Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2009, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Town Hall, Webster, NH

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Mary Kate Ryan, Karen Sheldon, Jeff Evans, Dot Proulx, Susan Rauth, David White, Susan Roman, Jere Buckley, Kate Bartlet, Phil Ryan, Betsy Janeway, Dean Eastman, Mary Jo MacGowan, Christine Hamm, Vanessa Bittermann, Ruairi O'Mahony.

1. Data Collection

Vanessa Bittermann presented the data collected by the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) over the summer. Maps were shown and discussion followed of:

- a. Bicycle Level of Service
- b. Pedestrian and Intersection Levels of Service
- c. Traffic Accidents
- d. Sign Inventory
- e. Existing Zoning
- f. Existing Land Use
- g. Traffic Volume, Average Speed, and Heavy Vehicle Percentages

2. Completing the Byway Inventory

In order to complete the Byway Inventory, Vanessa suggested that a group made up of one representative from each town should join her to drive the Byway together to make sure all important sites are included. Mary Kate Ryan of the Division of Historic Resources also offered to create a list of historic sites from her database.

3. Creating a Vision for the Currier and Ives Scenic Byway

Attendees broke up into two groups to discuss their thoughts on what the vision for the Byway should be. Each group then presented what they had discussed. As a large group, the Committee began to form a vision statement. Core elements included the communities' desire to preserve, protect, and enhance the rural, historic, scenic, and recreational qualities that make the Currier and Ives Trail a quintessential New England experience. The Committee also wanted to convey in the statement that parts of the Byway should remain rural and scenic (be preserved), while others would be more suitable for careful future development (Contoocook, Hopkinton, and Henniker villages). Vanessa and Ruairi offered to draft a vision statement based on the discussion and circulate it for comment. The statement will be finalized at the next Byway Committee meeting in November.