

**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

**9:00 AM
May 27, 2010**

In attendance were: SMRPC Executive Director Paul Schumacher, Chairman Peter Morelli, Vice Chairman Rob Heard, Secretary Joyce Wood, Nancy Perkins, Mike Huston, Jan Williams, and Jim Gulnac.

Absent: Treasurer Richard Bicknell, Greg Tansley, Ken Burford, Gerry Mylroie, Roxanne Eflin, Dave Bowles and Judy Bernstein.

1. Minutes of the May 27th Meeting

Mike Huston made the motion to accept the minutes as presented and Joyce Wood seconded. *Minutes were unanimously approved.*

2. Treasurer's Report:

Motion was made by Mike Huston to accept the Treasurer's Report and seconded by Jim Gulnac. *Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.*

Paul Schumacher explained that the report is down about \$16,000 due to the county not paying their \$8,000 portion. The county is holding all outside agency payments, but County Manager reassures that we will be getting paid along with Cooperative Extension and Soil Conservation. The other negativity was that the new server cost more than we had anticipated, but, all-in-all doing fine.

3. Brownfields Application/North Dam Mill, Phase IV:

Motion was made by Mike Huston and seconded by Joyce Wood to approve the loan request from Doug Sanford for the North Dam Mill in Biddeford of \$460,000 and authorize the Executive Director and Chuck Morgan to take action to facilitate by August 31st. *Motion was unanimously approved.*

Peter Sheer, consultant from Ransom was present to answer any questions and explain the project. This will be the 3rd and final loan to the North Dam Mill project. This loan is for the 4th Phase of the project. The Revolving Loan Fund Committee met and unanimously approved this loan. There was some concern about dumping \$1 million dollars into this single project, but it was decided that the work so far has been so well received and accepted by EPA/DEP, that not allowing for the finishing remediation around the building would be detrimental to the whole region. Chuck Morgan reassured the committee that commitment to this project did not end our program. We

applied for \$500,000 more from EPA last year and the North Dam Mill's progression should help in securing the funds.

Paul announced that Doug Sanford is in the process of purchasing West Point Pepperell Mill and may be back later for another loan. This mill will rebuild a small city and revive Biddeford and Saco. Plans are for building a pedestrian bridge across the river.

Paul also informed the committee that EPA had issues with Parsonsfield project and would discuss with them at a later date.

There was concerns about the loan not being fully secured, but as project is finished, the value of mill goes up and soon there will be enough collateral to cover value. As drawdown of funds could only be allowed by project completion, the funds would not be in jeopardy.

4. 2010/2011 Budget:

A motion was made by Mike Huston to order the budget be brought up at the Annual Budget Meeting and recorded to approve, seconded by Rob Heard. Unanimously approved.

It was suggested that the budget be put on our website. It was suggested that the contingency line be more generous, but contingency line was just a place holder.

5. Board Nominations

Paul informed the committee that the State Planning Office (SPO) was cutting their funding and possibly would soon eliminate it completely. It was decided that SMRPC not depend on further funding, and if funding was received, would be a bonus. Paul told the committee that the new SPO contract was being a bit too restrictive on where we spend the funds. Discussion ensued about whether a policy should be written to assist smaller towns with no staffing and give them more services for their dues. This issue will be discussed again at a later date.

6. State Planning Office Contract/Other Budget Issues

Paul informed the committee that the State Planning Office (SPO) was cutting their funding and possibly would soon eliminate it completely. It was decided that SMRPC not depend on further funding, and if funding was received, would be a bonus. Paul told the committee that the new SPO contract was being a bit too restrictive on where we spend the funds. Discussion ensued about whether a policy should be written to assist smaller towns with no staffing and give them more services for their dues. Not sure if policy is necessary as SMRPC already does a lot of work for the smaller towns.

7. Annual Meeting

We need people to attend. Please speak to Marian for information and to register. Roxanne Eflin is a very dynamic speaker, and her presentation should be informative to everyone. We will send out reminder notices via e-mail and by fax. It was suggested that invitations be sent out by postal service, but most liked e-mail instead.

8. Other:

Jim Gulnac discussed the many events planned for the Celebrate Sanford on the 1st full week of June. Events include: Kiwanis Golf Tournament, SMRPC's Annual Budget Meeting, Rotary Golf Tournament and barbecue, YCCA's open house, Flag Day Celebrations, Neighborhood Stabilization with tour of mills, veteran cemetery and airport, Elm Street Block Party and Sanford Mainers baseball game.

Paul announced that we need another member on the Revolving Loan Fund Committee since Aaron Shield left. The member should not be an Executive Committee member.

Chuck announced that he was putting together a tour of mills for the Revolving Loan Committee and would offer via e-mail to the Executive Committee. It was suggested that Frank and EPA be invited.

Next meeting – Annual Budget Meeting - June 9th