

PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board held 18 regular meetings in 2007. James Doggett was elected to a 3 year on the Board in March. The Board appointed 4 alternates: Mary M Allen, Gary F. Nelson, Deborah A. Finnigan and Kip J. Kaiser. Kip Kaiser declined the position. Kim Pettit and Ann Miles were voted in as Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively.

The Board welcomed its new Administrative Assistant, Lisa A. Babcock. It also concluded the bidding process for the Town Engineering contract, which was awarded to KV Partners LLC, Michael Vignale, PE. Also new to Newton is Eric Steltzer, Circuit Rider from the Rockingham Planning Commission. The Board wishes to express its gratitude to Altus Engineering of Portsmouth and to our previous Circuit Rider Planner, Reuben Hull, for their contributions to the work of the Board over the past couple of years.

Over the course of the year the following were approved:

- 6 – lot subdivision at George's Way
- 2 – lot subdivision at 44 Bear Hill Road
- 5 – lot subdivision at 30 Maple Avenue
- 2 – lot subdivision of Pinkerton Land off Whittier Street
- 3 lot line adjustments
- 3 minor non-residential site plans
- 1 major non-residential site plan at Puzzle Lane
- 4 recommendations to the Board of Selectmen for roadway acceptances

In addition, the Planning Board completed work on the Vision Chapter of the Master Plan, has nearly completed the Land Use Chapter and started work on the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Chapter.

The following Zoning Ordinances were implemented in 2007, having been approved by the voters in March:

- Amendment to the Accessory Apartment Ordinance
- Amendment to the Home Occupations/Home Based Business Ordinance
- Amendment to the Elderly Housing Ordinance
- Amendment to the Building Code References Ordinance
- Adoption of the Condominium Ordinance
- Adoption of the Floodplain Development Ordinance
- Adoption of the Commercial Architecture Ordinance
- Adoption of the Access Management Ordinance

The Board also began work on streamlining the Procedures sections of the Non-Residential Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations and expects to complete this work in January 2008.

Planning Board holds public hearings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm; Technical Review meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month beginning at 3:30 pm; and work sessions on the 4th Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm. These meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

Agendas, minutes, Zoning Ordinances, Site Plan Regulations and Subdivision Regulations are posted on the Town website: www.newton-nh.gov.

The Planning Board office is open to the public on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 7:45 am – 3:00 pm and Thursday evenings 3:00 – 7:00 pm. To contact the Planning Board Office, call (603) 382-3419 or e-mail newtonplanningnh@comcast.net.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly D. Pettit, Chairman

TRANSFER STATION

In 2007 there were a lot of changes to the Transfer Station. The town resident's sticker policy was created and strictly enforced. The Swap Area was moved to a new location and given more space. The fire pond and the area surrounding it were cleaned up. CBI of Newton has also agreed to remove the brush pile which will help eliminate the amount of burning done at the Transfer Station. The Town has renewed its contract with G. Mello Disposal.

If you have been to the Transfer Station lately you will notice that work has begun on a new access road. This road will help alleviate some of the congestion on Dugway Road. The big news at the Transfer Station is that beginning in 2008 the Transfer Station will now be open on Sundays.

The residents in 2007 recycled a total of 575 tons of material of that over 58 tons of plastic, tin, and glass; with over 60 tons of cardboard and 65 tons of newspaper; 226 tons of wood, concrete and roofing shingles and 161 tons of scrap metal. This all adds up to approximately **\$31,000** in savings for the town.

I have had conversations with residents who wish to know why the Transfer Station pushes recycling. The answer is simple: on the cardboard and newspaper the recycler pays the Town; the plastic, tin & Glass all gets a lower cost rate for recycling; Construction & Debris is also disposed of at a reduced cost to the Town; the books, CD, VCR tapes, Vinyl Records, and cassettes are recycled at ZERO cost to the Town; the metal that is brought into the Transfer Station also generates revenue. (The rule on metal is, if its 35% metal then it goes into the metal pile). Whether you choose to recycle because you feel its good for the environment or, as you can see, because its helps in keeping your taxes lower, it's all up to you. The more materials that you recycle the cheaper the cost is to run the transfer station. So, I urge you all to PLEASE RECYCLE!

Respectfully Submitted
Andrew P. Morse, Facilities Manager
Newton Transfer Station