

**Mount Sunapee Advisory Committee Meeting** (*Minutes pending approval*)  
**June 15, 2010 at Newbury Town Hall**

**Committee members present:**

Ted Austin, Division of Parks and Recreation  
Christine Walker, UVLSRPC  
Nancy Marashio, Society for the Protection of NH Forests  
Dan Wolf, Town of Newbury  
Tim Drew, Dept of Environmental Services  
Don Kent, Division of Forests and Lands designee  
Gordon Marshall, Lake Sunapee Protective Association

**Members absent:**

DRED Commissioner George Bald, Committee Chairman  
Melanie Bell, Town of Goshen  
Vacant, c/o Rob Bryant, Lake Sunapee Region Chamber of Commerce

**Others present:** Bruce Dougherty, Base Operations Manager/Mount Sunapee Resort; Torene Tango-Lowy, Committee clerk; several members of the public.

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**Welcome and Introductions** Director Austin called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m., informing the committee that Commissioner Bald had a scheduling conflict and could not attend. Committee members introduced themselves.

**Minutes** Ms. Marashio motioned to accept the minutes of September 15, 2009, as written. Mr. Wolf seconded. Motion carries.

**Old Business** There was no old business.

**New Business** Bruce Dougherty, Base Operations Manager at Mount Sunapee Resort, presented the Annual Operating Plan 2010-2011. Mount Sunapee Resort (Resort) plans to add a fire sprinkler system in the Summit Lodge, add a 120' moving carpet at South Peak and perform general maintenance. The Resort had a good winter considering the current economy, with over 260K skier visits. Mr. Dougherty responded to Mr. Wolf's question about the fire sprinkler system: that the water will be stored in the basement and will not require new wells. Copies of the plans are filed at DRED and the Town.

Ms. Marashio asked what the Resort is considering for development of summer recreational programs. The Resort is still investigating potential projects, such as a zip-line or mountain coaster, but there are no plans for summer program development for 2010. Ms. Marashio mentioned the installation of new hiking trail signage and asked Mr. Jerry Gold of Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge-Greenway Coalition to comment. Mr. Gold expressed his thanks to the Resort and Bureau of Trails for this collaborative effort: the signs were installed last week.

There is no new or additional information to report regarding the potential contract for an outside company to provide real estate marketing and sales services during the winter ski season. Dr. Kent noted the addition of security cameras in the buildings. Mr. Dougherty said it was not in response to any specific or major security issue, but is part of the Resort's overall security program initiatives. He also reported that the single-stream recycling program is working well and has reduced the volume of solid waste.

Dr. Kent informed the Resort of a spelling error in the name of a rare plant: *Lifparis loeselii* should read *Liparis loeselii* (p. 25).

Mr. Alan Richie of Mount Sunapee Resort addressed questions about ski trail work: the Resort continues its cleanup of the ice-storm damage; the new trail between Upper Ridge and Blast-Off will be a short, but nice introduction to glade skiing. Skiers already use the area, creating the trail.

Director Austin thanked the members for their comments and said any additional comments can be sent to Commissioner Bald, who will respond to the Resort by the June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Resort Update** The winter season ended with warm weather, but the Resort was pleased overall. Some of the summer events that have been booked include the Antique Car Show, the Craftsmen's Fair, an Old Days concert, weddings, and possibly a folk-country concert in fall.

**Public Comment** Director Austin opened the floor to public comment.

Tom Elliott, Friends of Mount Sunapee asked where the public could view a copy of the AOP. Ms. Michelle Chadwick of Mount Sunapee Resort said she will be dropping off copies of the plan to the local libraries. The Division will also post the plan on its website.

Rep. Ricia McMahan asked if the revenues from Mount Sunapee season passes sold online or from Okemo, VT are applied to Mount Sunapee Resort's income and accounted for in the lease payment. Director Austin said he would follow up. Rep. McMahan stated that NH should receive its share.

Tom Elliott asked about improvements to the Campground access road. Director Austin replied that the Division has submitted its FY 2012-2013 capital budget request for \$200K improvements to Sunapee Campground. The request includes the campground loop road, but does not include the access road. As both the State and the Resort use the access road, the Division will collaborate with the Resort for a cost-sharing initiative.

Mr. Elliott critiqued the Division in its late notification of the meeting. Ms. Walker agreed. Director Austin said he would, to the extent possible, provide a month's prior notice of meetings.

**Next Meeting Date** The next meeting will be at the call of the Chairman.

Ms. Walker motioned to adjourn; Mr. Drew seconded. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.

*Minutes submitted by T. Tango-Lowy.*