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Welcome to Portsmouth, New Hampshire!

The New Hampshire Planners Association is excited to bring you back to the Seacoast!

CONFERENCE VENUES

Most conference events will be held at the Portsmouth Harbor Events & Conference Center, at 100 Deer Street

The Awards Reception will be at 3S ArtSpace, 319 Vaughan Street on Thursday at 5:45 p.m.

Concurrent sessions on both days will be organized in these tracks – look for the icons to help you get to the right sessions:

Planning and Art. How can planners integrate the arts into their daily work? How do we create creative places? Who do we talk with about all this, and how? Learn how to bring the arts into the mainstream of planning.

Planning Drama. Is there drama in your planning world? What messages work to communicate the impacts of climate change? Is it possible for planners to get along with the DPW? Hear planners tell their tales of woe and triumph.

Kitchen Sink. Climate change, recreation, healthy environments, form-based codes, and new ways of thinking about comprehensive plans. There’s something for everyone!
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Randy Cohen

Building Healthier Communities Through the Arts

An investment in the arts does more than enhance our quality of life. It also improves our communities socially, educationally, and economically. Join national arts leader, Randy Cohen of Americans for the Arts, for a lively and interactive session about building healthier communities through the arts. Randy will also share new trends in audience engagement as well as his latest public opinion on the arts research. Bring home the knowledge that will enable you to integrate the arts into your community and planning work for years to come.

Randy Cohen is Vice President of Research and Policy at Americans for the Arts, the nation’s advocacy organization for the arts. A member of the staff since 1991, Randy stands out as a noted expert in the field of arts funding, research, policy, and using the arts to address community development issues. He recently published Americans Speak Out About the Arts, a national study about the public’s opinions and participation in the arts. He publishes The National Arts Index, the annual measure of the health and vitality of arts in the U.S. as well as the two premier economic studies of the arts industry—Arts & Economic Prosperity, the national impact study of nonprofit arts organizations and their audiences; and Creative Industries, an annual mapping study of the nation’s 703,000 arts establishments and their employees.

Randy led the development of the National Arts Policy Roundtable, an annual convening of leaders who focus on the advancement of American culture, launched in 2006 in partnership with Robert Redford and the Sundance Institute. His 10 Reasons to Support the Arts blog recently received the Gold Award from the Association of Media & Publishing—their top honor for best blog post of the year. A sought after speaker, Randy has given speeches in 49 states, and regularly appears in the news media—including the Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, and on C-SPAN, CNN, CNBC, and NPR.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00 REGISTRATION

8:45 – 9:00 WELCOME and ORIENTATION

Sarah Marchant, NNECAPA President
Shanna Saunders, NHPA President
Ben Frost and Elizabeth Wood, Conference Co-Chairs

9:00 – 9:15 Portrait of an Artist – A Tribute to Van McLeod

Byron Champlin, NEFA Board of Directors and Concord City Council

9:15 – 10:30 OPENING PLENARY: Portsmouth’s African Burying Ground

After the unexpected revealing of a more than 300-year old burying ground for African and African-descended people underneath a City street, the City of Portsmouth closed and transformed the street into an evocative public gathering space to acknowledge its past and to return the site to sacred ground. With original works of outdoor public art at its core the site has become a focal point for telling a more complete story of Portsmouth’s history and reflecting on the site’s lessons for our current age. This presentation will move beyond a description of the important story – the rediscovery and presence of Africans in Portsmouth from its earliest days – but will highlight several major ideas and themes relevant to planners and public administrators working to bring art installations and new place making to their communities. Conferees wishing to visit the site and learn more background information are welcome to visit www.africanburyinggroundnh.org prior to the session. (CM | 1.25)

David Moore, City of Portsmouth
M. Christine Dwyer, City of Portsmouth
Vernis Miller Jackson, Seacoast African American Cultural Center
Roberta Woodburn, ASLA, Woodburn & Company

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10:30 – 10:45 BREAK: Coffee, Carbs & Communications

10:45 – 11:45  KEYNOTE ADDRESS:

Randy Cohen

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Sponsors:

12:00 – 1:15  LUNCH  Sponsors:  Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.
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...and Three FASTinating Presentations (CM | 0.75)

1. New Ruralism – Continuing the Conversation

Tara Bamford, North Country Council
Peg Elmer, AICP, Community-Resilience.org
Mark Lapping, Ph.D., Muskie School of Public Service
Lynn Seeley, Maine Association of Planners

What do local foods initiatives, programs to support the challenges of aging in place, neighbors helping neighbors with energy efficiency, employee/entrepreneur cooperatives, and carpool incentives all have in common? They are all examples of successful innovation in our rural communities. With funding from NNECAPA and APA Chapter Presidents Council, several case studies from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont are available at www.nnecapa.org.
2. Climate Change in the Classroom – Empowering Students to Take Action

*Kyle Pimental, Principal Regional Planner, Strafford Regional Planning Commission*
*Amanda Stone, Extension Specialist, Natural Resources & Land Conservation, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension*

Young children and parents are audiences that have typically been absent during traditional climate change related workshops and outreach events. This presentation will focus on a process in which staff from the Strafford Regional Planning Commission and UNH Cooperative Extension partnered up with two Oyster River Middle School (Durham, NH) teachers to coordinate a climate change lesson for 5th grade students. Students learned about the potential impacts of climate change in NH, as well as what communities can do in order to adapt. The process culminated with the students presenting their findings to community members, parents, and municipal officials.

3. Planning and Art: Happening in Brattleboro

*Rod Francis, Town of Brattleboro*

A community art project has revealed the role of the Connecticut River in Brattleboro to explore our relationships to place. In 2012 Brattleboro received a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Our Town grant to undertake a three-part project which culminated in a juried public art project connecting the community to its cultural and natural heritage. The winning submission, “From the River, To the River,” was realized during the summer of 2016 as a series of events and art installations. This project illustrates the role art in placemaking, an intentional process for revealing community character.

1:15 – 1:30 Break

1:30-2:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Nurturing Creative Places

*Jennifer Sien Erickson, Metropolitan Area Planning Commission*
*Kim Szeto, New England Foundation for the Arts*
*Marty Pottenger, Art at Work*

Arts and culture is an essential element of what makes places and communities healthy, connected, and vibrant. It provides opportunities for people from different walks of life to
socialize, learn, and play; it provides experiences that help people engage with elements in the past, present, and future; and it creates unique and exciting opportunities for people to understand and interact with their built and natural environments.

How can planners nurture innovation and creativity through planning, programming, and policy? Join us for a deep dive into the Arts and Planning Toolkit. Join us for a demo of the new Arts and Planning Toolkit, an innovative new resource for planners and other government staff who are interested in innovating their civic practices through projects and partnerships that engage arts, culture, and the creative community. Learn about how arts and culture can be an effective component of urban, suburban, and rural community revitalization. Hear from leaders who are working on a range of exciting projects from cultural planning to creative economy development and creative placemaking. Learn about real projects that are infusing creativity into the civic life and physical and social environments of communities and walk away with inspiring, concrete examples of ways you integrate build arts and culture into your planning practice. (CM | 1.0)

When and How Do Our Communities Act? Creating Political Will and Public Support for Planning and Climate Resilience at the Local Level

June Hammond Rowan, Ed.D., Plymouth State University
Christa Daniels, AICP, Program Manager, Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience, Antioch University New England
Clay Mitchell, Esq., PhD. University of New Hampshire, Natural Resources and the Environment

Municipalities have access to a wide range of resources that can help them address a multitude of growth and climate change issues. However, even with this information, communities still face significant barriers bridging the gap from planning to action. In fact, the US Third National Climate Assessment lists implementation as the number one significant gap in the success of adaptation. This session will present recent research about the pattern of growth and response in our communities and what our Planning Boards are doing. We will also provide guidance on how to effectively engage the general public in order to build the political will and public support needed to implement policies, regulations, design standards, and projects at the local level. (CM | 1.0)

NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup: Resourceful – Ready – Resilient

Steve Miller, Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
Sherry Godlewski, NH Department of Environmental Services
Steve Bird, City of Dover, NH
Jay Diener, Seabrook-Hampton Estuary Alliance

The NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW) has worked with coastal watershed communities since 2010 helping them to understand the science of climate change and learn about their vulnerabilities to its impacts. NHCAW has also supported community efforts to become more resilient. This session will feature two communities and highlight what motivated them to begin to act and what they have been working on. They will share what was most helpful in making action happen and what is planned for their “next steps.” (CM | 1.0)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

2:30 – 3:00  BREAK: Coffee, Carbs & Communication Devices


3:00 – 4:00  CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Community-Based Art All Around Sparks Downtown Rebirth

Abigail Cioffi, Westbrook Downtown Coalition
Craig Collins, Maine Center for Creativity
Donna Dwyer, My Place Teen Center

The City of Westbrook, Maine is taking steps to revitalize its downtown and change perceptions about the community. In the summer of 2016, city stakeholders launched a community-driven outdoor art initiative called Art All Around to boost civic engagement, pride and connection in the community, increase visibility of the city’s downtown, and spark economic development. Fresh off Art All Around’s success, key partners in the initiative will speak to the elements that made the program a success and a model for other towns across Maine to increase community engagement, improve quality of life and boost economic activity. (CM | 1.0)

Scenes of a Planning Career

Sarah Marchant, AICP, Community Development Division Director, Nashua, NH
Christopher Parker, AICP, Assistant City Manager: Director of Planning and Strategic Initiatives, Dover, NH
Rick Sawyer, AICP, Town Manager, Bedford, NH
Sandrine Thibault, AICP, CNU, Director of Comprehensive Planning and Municipal Services, Town Planning and Urban Design Collaborative, LLC

Four “seasoned” planners in different roles discuss how they've evolved and lasted in the field. The session is geared towards new professional planners interested in learning about different career paths. Panelists represent those that have worked for the same community their whole career, been in the public and private sectors, worked in various communities and have moved into town management. Q&A starts with the audience to learn expectations followed by speakers offering an overview of their careers and 3 lessons learned. (CM | 1.0)
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Closing Trail Network Gaps: Lessons from Portland and Keene

Carl Eppich, Senior Planner, Portland Areas Comprehensive Transportation System (PACTS)
Will Schoefmann, Transportation Planner/GIS Analyst, City of Keene
Phil Goff, New England Planning Leader, Alta Planning + Design (Cambridge MA)

This panel will introduce participants to out-of-the-box strategies to deal with challenging gaps in a city or region’s trail system. Panelists will highlight recently-completed off-street trail projects, along with planning for on-street trail connectivity projects where off-street solutions are only available in the long term. Agency staff from Keene, NH and the Portland region will be joined by a planning consultant working in both communities to improve walking and bicycling infrastructure. (CM | 1.0)

4:00 – 4:15 BREAK: Coffee & Communication Devices

4:15 – 5:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

The Arts and a Thriving Downtown

Sarah Marchant, City of Nashua
Katherine Hersh, Board of City Arts Nashua
Paul Shea, Great American Downtown

Art is popping up everywhere in Downtown Nashua, leading the revitalization and sustainability of the heart and soul of Nashua. The arts today evolved from grassroots organizations and partnerships among Great American Downtown, City Arts Nashua and the City of Nashua, to name a few. In this interactive session the speakers will explore some of the great projects currently on the ground and their history, including the annual International Sculpture Symposium, Main Street Pianos, ARTventures, murals, chairs to share, and more. (CM | 1.0)

Planning and Public Works-Can’t We All Get Along?

Christopher Parker, AICP, City of Dover
Douglas Steele, II, City of Dover

In local government, there tends to be a myth that planning and public works are adversaries. Planning wants an ideal world, and public works deals with nitty gritty reality. In fact, the two can and in many cases do speak the same language (roads can be narrowed, but still plowed). In Dover, NH public works and planning work together on many infrastructure projects, which include planning ideals. From implementing a Complete Streets policy to ensuring that groundwater protection and stormwater management are part of the plan review vernacular, learn how these departments work together and trust each other. (CM | 1.0)
Planning for Healthy and Climate Resilient Communities

Jared Ulmer, AICP, Vermont Department of Health
Kathleen Bush, Ph.D., New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
Peg Elmer Hough, AICP, community-resilience.org
Michael McCrory, CFM, City of Claremont

Northern New England is already warming and experiencing more frequent and severe storms. These climate changes have been associated with higher risk of heat illness, tick and mosquito-borne illnesses, blue-green algae blooms, allergen exposure, and extreme weather impacts. In this session, learn more about how climate change is increasing health risks, how planning and public health agencies in our region are collaborating to help reduce these risks, and how planners can promote climate change mitigation strategies with immediate health benefits. The session will include discussion with audience members to identify additional opportunities for planning and health professionals to collaborate. (CM | 1.0)

NNECAPA 2016 Annual Awards Reception at 3S ArtSpace, 319 Vaughan Street, Portsmouth

Sponsors: Arnett Development Group, LLC
Broadreach Planning & Design
CJ Architects
CLD Consulting Engineers
DeStefano Architects
Keach Nordstrom Associates
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Plan NH
Town Planning & Urban Design Collaborative

Annual Awards Reception at 3S ArtSpace – designed by conference sponsor McHenry Architecture

With live music by the Doctor George Quartet!
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

8:00 – 9:15 BREAKFAST –


8:45 start NNECAPA Annual Business Meeting

9:30 – 10:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Incorporating an Arts Culture in Planning: Start-up to Success

Deborah Greel, City of Salem, MA
Lillian Hsu, Cambridge Arts, City of Cambridge, MA
Steve Cecil, Harriman
Valerie Conyngham, Harriman

Most communities agree that public art adds value to a community, but how do you encourage the arts to really flourish in a community? Steps need to be taken to legitimize the art and a plan needs to be put in place for how you’d like your community to engage in their public spaces. Hear from two people on the ground in their communities fostering the arts in different ways, as well as a seasoned architect and urban designer who has helped New England communities develop strategies to embrace art and increase the enjoyment of public space. *(CM | 1.0)*

Conservation in Three Acts

Ken Belliveau, Town of Williston, VT
Stephanie Smith, AICP, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
Lauren Masseria, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Vermont’s working landscape, a beautiful backdrop and part of its visual identity, is influenced by land use policy, personal choice, and various economic situations. In this session, professionals will share challenges to preserving this iconic landscape, such as keeping agricultural land in production, addressing development pressures, and implementing policies that aim to support the agricultural industry. Join three planners from the state, local and regional non-profit world in a conversation about strategies to focus growth in existing centers, support a working landscape, and connect farmers to available land. Attendees are encouraged to contribute tactics to keep farmland available and in agricultural use. *(CM | 1.0)*
Comprehensive Planning for the Next Generation – Building a More Integrative and Holistic Master Plan to Address Modern Challenges

Jessa Berna, City of Portsmouth
Rick Taintor, City of Portsmouth
Alan Mountjoy, NBBJ
Chris Herlich, NBBJ

Portsmouth is nearing completion of a multi-year Master Planning process. This session will discuss how and why our Master Plan transformed from a traditional document into an easily accessible design-based plan with a creative structure focused on broad themes and geographic locations. We will identify challenges and opportunities that arose through public engagement and discuss how this plan is designed to address these overarching principles in a holistic, yet targeted, manner. Looking forward, we will contemplate the evolving role of long-range planning and its importance in understanding issues at multiple scales and directing incremental improvements through budgeting, metrics and accountability. (CM | 1.0)

10:30 – 10:45 BREAK: Coffee & Communications


10:45 – 11:45 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Ask the Arts People

Dee Schneidman, New England Foundation for the Art
Michele Bailey, Vermont Arts Council

Unlock the mysteries of working with artists and arts organizations for economic and community development. How do planners find out what cultural assets are in a community? What are some creative ways to leverage the creative sector for community revitalization and growth? When planners engage with artists, arts administrators and the community in public art and creative placemaking activities it can aid in community revitalization efforts by adding value, building civic pride, and reflecting local culture, heritage and values. In this session we’ll share resources like CreativeGround.org to help you to find and work with artists and arts organizations. (CM | 1.0)
Expanding the Conversation—Citizen-led Planning

Karen Marzloff, Seacoast Local
Eric Eby, City of Portsmouth, NH
Doug Roberts, Board Chair of PS21
Sarah Curry, Owner, Bikram Yoga, Portsmouth, NH
Charlotte Bouvier, PS21

In 2014, a small group of Portsmouth residents sought to elevate and expand the community’s somewhat heated public discourse on real estate development. The group organized public forums featuring nationally known speakers with expertise in various urban planning issues. Thus was conceived Portsmouth SmartGrowth for the 21st Century (PS21). PS21 advocates for a vibrant, sustainable, and walkable community. During the past two years, PS21 organized mobile workshops, walking tours, a showing of Jan Gehl’s film “The Human Scale,” and public lectures featuring nationally recognized experts such as Jeff Speck on walkability, Michael Manville on parking, Jennifer Hurley on workforce housing, Mike Lydon on tactical urbanism, Cameron Wake on climate change, and Robert Campbell on architectural design. Without exception, the PS21 events have been very well attended. The conversation continues in local media, social media and at local meetings and gatherings. In this session, we will hear about what has worked well, and that which has not, and lessons learned. (CM | 1.0)

Implementing Your Community Vision with FBC

Sandrine Thibault, AICP, TPUDC
David White, AICP, City of Burlington, VT
Brian Wright, TPUDC

Across the region, local leaders want to create vibrant communities that support jobs, foster economic development, and are attractive places for people to live, work, and play. What many communities are discovering is that their zoning ordinances are barriers to achieving these goals. Outdated or poorly built ordinances stifle our abilities to build thriving, prosperous communities, and often they even incentivize financially ruinous sprawling development. Form-Based Codes are becoming a more accepted practice in Northern New England and can help you achieve the vision that your community articulated in its master plan. In New England, one-size-fits-all strategies are off the table. Learn how FBCs can be calibrated to the DNA of your own community. (CM | 1.0)

12:00 – 12:45 LUNCH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

12:15 – 1:45  Ethics at Risk: What Would You Do?

Robert Mitchell, FAICP
Sarah Marchant, AICP, City of Nashua, NH
Sara Carbonneau, Town of Swanzey, NH

What are your ethical responsibilities as a planner? How should you respond to ethical challenges? Have you ever had a commission meeting veer dramatically into unethical territory with a commission member leading the way? What is the responsibility of the planner when this occurs? What ethics resources are available to the planner to help right the ethics ship? Explore this issue through the viewing of videos, panel discussion, and audience participation. Bring your own stories of ethically challenged meeting dramas! (CM | 1.5 ETHICS)

2:00 – 4:00  MOBILE WORKSHOPS

Workshop A. Public Drama!

Jim Donovan, FASLA, AICP, Broadreach Planning and Design
Carl Eppich, AICP, Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Using the streets and places of downtown Portsmouth as a study area, this session will provide a step by step process on how to conduct a successful site visit or tour. During the tour, the leaders will demonstrate the good and not so good ways to conduct an outdoor tour. Along the way, they will also tell stories about past public dramas experienced during public work sessions or meetings, making sure to explain how they handled the situation and whether there was a successful outcome. They will invite participants to offer their own stories of public drama and, when appropriate, discuss with the group how successfully the situations was addressed. (CM | 2.0)

Workshop B. Reading the Built Environment

Tom Morgan, Planning Consultant and PS21

On this walking tour, participants will learn how to spot clues in the streetscape and building fabric so as to identify changes over time, and the period when those changes occurred. The tour will include a brief overview of Portsmouth’s architectural history, and a visit to one of the city’s treasures, the Athenaeum. (CM | 2.0)
Workshop C. A Tale of Three Neighborhoods – Using Character-Based Zoning to Preserve and Strengthen Urban Design and Neighborhood Character

Rick Taintor, City of Portsmouth, NH
Nick Cracknell, City of Portsmouth, NH

Portsmouth has adopted a character-based zoning code for its Downtown, North End and West End neighborhoods. This session/mobile workshop will highlight how the city managed to adapt character-based regulations to the context of three distinct neighborhoods of the city. Participants will explore the neighborhoods with local planners and character-based code experts discussing and identifying frontage types, buildings types, the public realm and other code elements. See some recent examples of development that was built under the conventional zoning regulations and identify how it would have changed under the new code. (CM | 2.0)

Workshop D. Urban Renewal – the Morning After

The Honorable Martha Fuller Clark, Senator, State of New Hampshire
Jerry Zelin

It has long been assumed by many that the most difficult challenges posed by the Urban Renewal programs of the 1960’s and 1970’s are well behind us. Well, not necessarily, as we recently learned in Portsmouth’s North End, site of one of NH’s oldest urban neighborhoods. In 1972, planners consolidated the confiscated lots into larger tracts so as to facilitate the construction of large buildings. During the past few years, real estate speculators who attempted to do just that were met with unrelenting opposition from hundreds of Portsmouth residents. In this session, we’ll hear from two prominent Portsmouth citizens as to why building scale continues to be a hot-button issue in a city where residents are justly proud and protective of the community’s historic character. (CM | 2.0)

Workshop E. Downtown Climate Change Resilience

Peter Britz, City of Portsmouth, NH

Take a walk around downtown Portsmouth’s Historic District. The tour will highlight where specific sea level rise impacts are likely to occur based on current climate change predictions. Hear about a range of climate change adaptation strategies and see examples of some that have already been implemented. Hear about Portsmouth’s 2013 Coastal Resilience Initiative and the City’s ongoing Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment specific to the Historic District. (CM | 2.0)
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Michele Bailey has worked in the field of arts administration at the Vermont Arts Council since 1988. She is currently the Senior Program Director, working closely with Council staff and partnering organizations in developing and implementing programs, grants and services to Vermont artists, arts organizations and schools. Since 1996, she has been responsible for administering the Vermont Art in State Buildings Program, a public art program for new or renovated construction of State buildings. She also oversees the Council’s Animating Infrastructure Grants, a pilot public art program that supports community projects that integrate art with infrastructure improvements.

Tara Bamford has led North Country Council’s (NCC) community planning program in northern N.H. since 2007. Prior to that she was Executive Director at Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC. She has developed several model ordinances over the years to support community development that is grounded in the assets and limitations of the natural environment; four were published in NHDES’s award winning Innovative Land Use Planning Techniques Handbook. She also facilitates the Connecticut River Joint Commissions’ 5 bistate Local River Subcommittees. Tara has served on the Executive Committees of VPA and NNECAPA. Tara likes to claim that she is truly a Northern New England planner since for almost 30 years she has lived in Vermont and worked in New Hampshire, and now also has a campsite in Downeast Maine where she and her spouse are conserving a public access to the tidelands for future generations of clammers.

Ken Belliveau is currently the director of planning and zoning for the Town of Williston Vermont, a position he’s held since 2008. Williston is one of the fastest growing communities in Vermont, and a key part of the greater Burlington regional economy. During that time he has overseen two town plan updates, several revisions to the town’s development regulations, and played a prominent role in the implementation of the town’s state designated growth center, and the town’s residential growth management system. Prior to working in Williston, Ken has worked in a variety of planning and public policy positions dealing with comprehensive planning in state and local government agencies in the states of California, Georgia, and Tennessee.

Jessa Berna has over ten years of experience in GIS, planning and community engagement. She has worked in the public and private sectors on projects ranging from Community Wildfire Protection plans, regional land use and transportation analyses, and technologically innovative community engagement. She received a Master’s degree in Community Planning from the Muskie School of Public Policy in 2010. As Planner I with the City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, she is currently focusing on implementing form-based zoning, development review, and updating the City’s Master Plan.

Steve Bird has worked for the City of Dover as a City Planner for 19 years. He has been involved in many projects including master planning, Cochecho River dredging, waterfront redevelopment, ordinance preparation, climate change planning and conservation land preservation. He serves on the Conservation Commission, Open Lands Committee, Waterfront Committee, and Planning Board. Prior to Dover, he worked at the Rockingham Planning Commission for 12 years.

Charlotte Bouvier has resided in Portsmouth for the past five years, and has been an active volunteer with PS21. She is employed as a structural engineer at Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, an engineering firm based in Manchester, NH.

Peter Britz is the Environmental Planner/Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Portsmouth, where he works on environmental planning and permitting and coordinates the City’s sustainability efforts as an eco-municipality. He serves on the City’s Technical Advisory Committee and provides staff support to the Conservation Commission and the Committee on Sustainable Practices. He worked on the City’s Coastal Resilience Initiative (CRI) which mapped areas vulnerable to sea level rise, looked at adaptation strategies for climate change and developed recommendations that
are being incorporated into City’s master plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan. Building on the CRI Peter is currently working on a Vulnerability Assessment for the City’s Historic District.

Dr. Kathleen Bush is the Program Manager for the Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Program at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. With a background in environmental epidemiology, her work focuses on human-environment interactions. NH EPHT has several active collaborations with public health professionals at the State and Local level as well as other State Agencies such as the Department of Environmental Services on the human health impacts of climate change. Kathleen is committed to building environmental health capacity and increasing awareness of environmental hazards and health equity. Kathleen completed her Ph.D. in 2011 in Environmental Health Sciences at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, where she was also a Graham Environmental Sustainability Doctoral Fellow. She completed a dual B.S. in Biology and Environmental Studies (with a minor in Math) at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY.

Sara Carbonneau holds a M.S. degree in Resource Management and Administration from Antioch New England University and has worked for the Town of Swanze, NH since 1998. She is currently Swanze’s Director of Planning and Community Development. Ms. Carbonneau serves on the Executive Committee for the NH Planners Association and is the New Hampshire Legislative Liaison. In 2013 Ms. Carbonneau was named the NH Professional Planner of the Year by the NH Planners Association. In her very limited spare time, she can be found working in her garden or playing with her rescue dog, Jilly.

Steven Cecil, AIA, ASLA is the founding principal of The Cecil Group and a Principal at Harriman, the firm that The Cecil Group merged with in 2015. He brings over twenty-five years of professional experience to the firm, including urban design, planning, landscape architecture, and architecture projects throughout the United States and abroad. Steven brings creative solutions to planning and design challenges that are attentive to their cultural, environmental and community context. Prior to forming The Cecil Group, he directed the urban design and landscape architecture groups at CBT Architects and Skidmore Owings & Merrill/Boston. Steven’s academic contributions have included teaching assignments in both the urban design and urban planning programs at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. Recent assignments include developing placemaking standards for a future I-90 interchange in Allston, MA, developing a design vision for Ashland Street in North Adams, MA to be a vibrant connecting corridor to Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, a redevelopment plan for Gilbert and Bennett Mill in Redding, CT focused on attracting arts and cultural uses, and developing an urban design framework plan for Salem’s Artists’ Row.

Abigail Cioffi is the coordinator of the Downtown Westbrook Coalition (DWC), a Maine Downtown Network community formed in November 2014. The Maine Downtown Network is a sister program of Main Street Maine; both programs are coordinated by the Maine Downtown Center. Main Street is a national organization that uses the Four Point Approach of Design, Economic Vitality, Organization, and Promotion to pursue downtown revitalization. The DWC’s mission is to engage residents, the business community, and the municipality to create a positive downtown environment by recruiting and retaining businesses, drawing people downtown by hosting and promoting events, and making downtown a walkable, livable, thriving destination. Abigail earned her B.A. in History with a minor in Art History, then went on to pursue her M.A. in Public History with an emphasis on Historic Preservation. She learned about the Main Street program during her undergraduate degree and found it to be the perfect partnership of community engagement and historic preservation. While in graduate school, she interned for West Side Main Street in Charleston, WV, where she saw firsthand how the Main Street model can transform a community and empower its residents to make the changes they want to see. She lives in downtown Biddeford and is a volunteer for the Heart of Biddeford, a Main Street Maine community. She is thrilled to work in a state that supports local businesses and rewards entrepreneurship and grit.
Senator Martha Fuller Clark served NH’s 21st District from 2004 to 2010, and from 2012 to the present. She earned a Masters in Art History at Boston University, and worked professionally as an architectural historian. She recently retired as President of the Board of Strawbery Banke, and continues to serve as on the board. She is also an advisor to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and is the past President of Scenic America.

Randy Cohen – see page 4 for biography.

Craig Collins: A native of New England, Craig is Executive Director of the Maine Center for Creativity (MCC), a Portland-based non-profit which builds alliances between arts, industry and community to make Maine more vital economically, more vibrant culturally, and more visible as a place where innovation and creativity thrive. Craig comes to MCC after more than 15 years’ experience working in the areas of conflict management, dialogue facilitation, good governance and democratic development for the United Nations, regional inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. He served as UN Peace and Development Advisor in Maldives from 2012-2014, and was previously Coordinator of the global Initiative on Quiet Diplomacy (IQd, 2007-2012), working with partners in the Balkans, Central and South Asia, the Middle East, and the Pacific Islands. He holds a Master’s of Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Valerie Conyngham CPSM uses her background in marketing and business strategy to help municipal clients think about their communities through the lens of brand and place. In Salem, MA she worked with the City to develop a framework for Salem’s Artists’ Row that considered both design and programmatic changes. She worked on the competition management team for Connect Kendall Square in Cambridge, MA and developed concepts to integrate storytelling and technology into wayfinding in Concord, MA. She holds an MA in Integrated Marketing Communications from Emerson College, is on the board of directors for Society for Marketing Professional Services, Boston Chapter and is a Certified Professional Services Marketer. Valerie is an Associate and Director of Business Strategy at Harriman.

Nick Cracknell is the Principal Planner for the City of Portsmouth. He has over 25 years of planning and urban development experience, including 20 years as a municipal planner and over 5 years in the private sector as a land use consultant to developers and public agencies. Nick provides staff support to the City’s Historic District Commission and assists with a variety of land use and development projects in the city. He was the project coordinator for the form-based code projects in the downtown and west end areas of Portsmouth and he coordinated the development of Design Guidelines and a 3-D Massing Model for the Historic District. Prior to becoming a city planner in Portsmouth, Nick was a municipal planner in Georgetown and Amesbury, MA and was the Planning Director for Newburyport, MA. Nick played a key role in coordinating a wide variety of smart growth initiatives in an effort to develop land use regulations that better manage the quality and character of new development so that it fits in with the surrounding context and the historic character of the community.

Sara Curry is the owner and director of Bikram Yoga in Portsmouth, Vice President of Seacoast Area Teachers of Yoga in Action, and has served on the steering committee of Portsmouth’s West End Business Association since 2005.

Christa Daniels has worked with local governments for the past 15 years to foster energy independence, reduce traffic congestion, curb local air pollution, strengthen local economies, and increase their resilience to the changing climate. Mrs. Daniels has facilitated and created innovative participatory stakeholder engagement strategies with towns and regions such as Pittsburgh PA, the Greater Portland Council of Governments, Monadnock region in New Hampshire, NY Department of Conservation, Maplewood NJ, and Bridgeport CT. Christa earned her B.A. in Political Science at Pace University and M.S. in Resource Management and Administration at Antioch Graduate School. Christa’s past experience includes working for the United Nations, NH Department of Environmental Services, Clean Air Cool Planet, and as a city
planner for Keene, NH. She currently works for Climate Access as a research coordinator and Antioch University New England (AUNE) as the Program Manager for the Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience Center. Christa is a doctoral student at AUNE. Christa loves snowboarding, running, and spending time with her four-year-old son.

Jay Diener is the founder and a board member of the Seabrook-Hampton’s Estuary Alliance, a group dedicated to addressing climate change issues in three adjacent communities, formed in 2014. He served on the board of the Great Bay Stewards from 2001-2013 and was President from 2011-2013. Jay has also served as a member of the Hampton Conservation Commission since 2003 and as chair since 2009-2016.

Jim Donovan, FASLA, AICP, practices landscape architecture and planning through his firm, Broadreach Planning & Design in Charlotte, Vermont. Jim has more than 25 years of experience in transportation and land use planning, site design, and community development with a strong focus on pedestrian and bicycle circulation and mobility. Public engagement is a significant part of his work with communities, and he has had lots of chances to perfect his skills at dealing with unruly, hostile, rude, or enthusiastic members of the public. Jim currently serves as the treasurer of the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planners Association and the President-Elect of the Vermont Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Jim is also Secretary General of the ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Scientific Committee. He is the Town of Charlotte representative to the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission. Jim is a licensed landscape architect in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New York and several other states.

Donna Dwyer is the president and CEO of My Place Teen Center, located in Westbrook, ME. My Place Teen Center is year round, free, out of school time program providing a safe haven for youth ages 10 – 18 and sustaining them with comfort, meals, resources, and hope. MPTC’s vision is that all youth will have the academic, job readiness, and life skills necessary to lead independent adult lives filled with stewardship, courage, passion, and joy. Donna has devoted her life to those with disabilities and those who are considered most at risk. She pursued a Master’s degree in Special Education in order to be a better mother. She pursued a Certificate of Graduate Study in Educational Leadership and in Non-Profit Management to be a better social service leader. And she pursued her MBA to be better entrepreneur and visionary. As an avid adult learner, Donna determined that higher education was the pathway to a promising career path. A life-long Mainer, Donna is passionate about Maine – the people, the geography, and its diverse lifestyle.

M. Christine Dwyer is the longest-serving of Portsmouth’s nine City Councilors; she was elected to her sixth consecutive two-year term in 2015. As a City Councilor she has served in critical leadership roles on several Blue Ribbon Committees and other initiatives in service to the City’s Arts and Culture programming; Affordable Housing initiatives; Portsmouth Middle School Construction; and the City’s African Burying Ground and Memorial Park. She is the co-owner and senior vice president of RMC Research, a national firm engaged in research and consultation related to the well-being of families, children, and communities. Dwyer has a longstanding interest in the arts and has carried out studies for numerous private foundations, including Pew, Ford, and Rockefeller (in partnership with the American Planning Association). She was appointed by two New Hampshire governors to chair the state’s Arts Council; chaired Portsmouth’s arts commission; served on the board of the New England Foundation for the Arts; and has recently stepped down as president of the board of the Currier Museum of Art. When presiding over Portsmouth’s Music Hall board, Dwyer initiated the nationally known Shipyard Project, a community-based residency of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange.

Eric Eby is in his second year as the Parking and Transportation Engineer for the City of Portsmouth. Prior to that, he was the Traffic Engineer for the City of Lowell, MA for 4 years, where he oversaw the conversion of the downtown streets
from one-way back to two-way traffic flow, and also designed and implemented the City's first buffered bike lane. Before Lowell, Eric worked in the private sector for over 20 years as a consulting traffic engineer.

Jennifer Sien Erickson is Manager of Technical Assistance Programs at the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), the regional planning agency for the Metropolitan Boston region. She also staffs and manages a variety of land use planning projects and serves as the Coordinator for the largest of MAPC's subregions, the Inner Core. Her areas of expertise include community visioning, housing, fair housing, economic development, transit-oriented development, arts and culture, and equity. Her work has been recognized with a social advocacy and public engagement award from the APA Massachusetts Chapter. Ms. Erickson is an active member of the American Planning Association’s Diversity Task Force and is a founder of the new APA Arts and Planning Interest Group (APIG). Prior to joining MAPC, Ms. Erickson worked with public and private foundations as a grantmaker, facilitating funding to nonprofits working to advance the quality of life in the Commonwealth. Ms. Erickson hold a Bachelor of Science in Global Studies from Lesley University and a Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University. She is a trained facilitator and is also a practicing ceramic artist.

Rod Francis, Planning Director, Town of Brattleboro has more than twenty-five years of experience in planning teaching and practice covering land use planning, community development, and housing. Prior to joining Brattleboro, Francis worked for the Windham Regional Commission. He has worked with multiple New England communities devising community engagement tools and drafting Town Plans. Rod has a longstanding interest in the significance of “place” and has developed strategies for communities to draw on their natural and cultural heritage so they may adapt to increasingly global futures.

Sherry Godlewski has worked for NH Department of Environmental Services for 19 years, and has experience in the water, air, waste, and environmental health programs. She currently works on Climate Change Adaptation efforts. Sherry serves as co-chair of both the Coastal Adaptation Workgroup and the Upper Valley Adaptation Workgroup. She represents New Hampshire in regional adaptation workgroups. Sherry has a M.S. in Environmental Communication and Administration from Antioch University.

Phil Goff is a native of Keene, NH, and has 18 years of urban design and pedestrian/bike facility planning experience. As Alta Planning + Design’s New England Planning Leader in the Cambridge MA office, Phil has overseen citywide bicycle and/or pedestrians master plans, bike share feasibility studies and trail/roadway corridor studies. Recent efforts range from the development of a ped/bike master plan for Northampton MA, UVM’s Campus Active Transportation Plan and Complete Streets corridor designs in Keene, Dover, Portland and elsewhere. He is the chair of the East Arlington Livable Streets Coalition (where he lives) and sits on the Board of the Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire.

Deborah Greel joined the City of Salem’s Planning and Community Development Department in 2014 to serve as the City’s first Public Art Planner. Leading the public art program, she recognizes the value that public art can bring to the cultural, aesthetic and economic vitality of a community. This program was developed through a partnership with the City, the Salem Partnership and the Peabody Essex Museum. In addition to overseeing the public art program, Deborah manages Artists’ Row, a City of Salem Arts Space Initiative for creative entrepreneurs in the heart of the historic downtown. Previously Deborah served as the Executive Director of the Marblehead Arts Association, growing the organization to include more than 500 artists from 35 communities and 7 states. She and her husband, John Wathne, enjoy living in such a creative and walkable city as Salem!

Chris Herlich is an urban planner and designer at NBBJ’s Boston studio. Chris supports his professional experience in federal government consulting, lobbying and planning and design with an academic focus on the intersection of data
and design. He specializes in the quantitative and qualitative analysis of place, as well as the communication of complex findings through oral, written and graphic narratives. He thoroughly understands the best ways to identify stakeholder concerns and translate them into physical realities. Chris’ recent projects include the Boston Seaport District Master Plan, the City of Cambridge Climate Change Preparedness and Resiliency Plan, and the Dallas Arts District Community Development Plan.

**Katherine Hersh** is serving her third year on the Board of City Arts Nashua and as its Chair. Kathy retired in 2013 after 12 years as Nashua’s Community Development Director. She is the co-founder of the Nashua International Sculpture Symposium in 2008 and continues to serve as chair of the symposium committee. Her other priorities as Community Development Director were the Riverwalk, the Heritage Rail Trail, passenger rail and land protection. Previously she was a senior planner for a land use consulting company, a consultant to the City of Lawrence Office of Economic Development, and the Trails and Greenways Coordinator for the Merrimack River Watershed Council. She served as Alderman-at-Large for ten years on the Nashua Board of Aldermen, six of the ten years as President or Vice-president. She also served on the Planning Board and Conservation Commission, the Nashua Regional Planning Commission and the NH Rail Transit Authority. Although not an artist herself, Ms. Hersh recognizes the importance of arts to a vibrant, sustainable urban environment.

**Peg Elmer Hough, AICP**, is a veteran professional planner and environmental advocate with a 38-year track record of creating training materials and programs for state and local policy-makers, lay and professional, guiding land use in Vermont. Prior to establishing Community-Resilience.org in 2012, she was Assistant Professor, Land Use Planning and Policy and Associate Director of the Land Use Clinic at Vermont Law School. She’s worked at the municipal, state agency, regional commission and non-profit levels – all aimed at developing and guiding land use policy. She serves on the Executive Committee of VT Planners Association and is a past President of NNECAPA.

**Lillian Hsu** has been Director of Public Art and Exhibitions since 2005 at Cambridge Arts, the arts agency for the City of Cambridge, where she manages the Percent-for-Art program tied to capital construction and directs exhibitions related to the public realm in the City’s Gallery 344. In addition, Lillian works with numerous partners in the public and private sectors to support, advocate for, and implement initiatives that bring art into daily life for all. In 2014 she created Let the Public Play (NEA supported), part of multiple efforts within City departments to build a more playful city – these efforts resulted in an Edgar Klugman Award from the Play, Policy and Practice Interest Forum of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. From 2002 to 2005 Lillian administered education and outreach programming, including Public Art ACTS, in collaboration with the Underground Railway Theatre, (NEA supported) and Public Art/Moving Site (NEFA supported), in partnership with New Haven, CT and Bellows Falls, VT, which received a Year in Review Award by the Americans for the Arts/Public Art Network. Lillian is also an artist and educator and studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and Wellesley College.

**Vernis Miller Jackson** was the Chair of the City of Portsmouth’s African Burying Ground Committee. She has served on the Committee since 2004 and was selected as its Chair in 2008, overseeing the design, fundraising, and construction phases of the initiative. She now serves on the successor Stewardship Committee. Vernis, a Paul Harris Fellow, is also a retired school teacher who taught for 37 years in the City’s elementary schools. She is also Founder and President of the Seacoast African American Cultural Center. Vernis works in multiple ways in pursuit of her passion for community service, children, the arts and African-American culture including through her involvement with the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, the Salvation Army and LINKS, Inc.
Mark Lapping is the Distinguished University Professor of Planning Emeritus at the University of Southern Maine (USM). Co-author of the APA's "Small Town Planning Handbook," he has served on the editorial Board of the JAPA, the JPER and other journals. He was the founding Dean of the Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy at Rutgers and the School of Rural Planning & Development at Ontario’s University of Guelph and has worked as a planner in numerous states, provinces and several foreign nations. At USM he served twice as the University's Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Executive Director of the Muskie School and was Interim President of Unity College in 2005-6.

Sarah Marchant, AICP is the City of Nashua’s Director of Community Development, where she is responsible for the budget and leadership of the Community Development Division which consists of five departments, including Building Safety, Code Enforcement, Planning and Zoning, Waterways, Transportation, Urban Programs, and various commissions, boards and programs. Prior to Nashua she served in Amherst, and Milford, NH. Sarah has spearheaded a wide-range of projects, including a comprehensive rewriting of Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations, and Public Works Standards; zoning ordinance amendments including Form Based Codes, Wetlands, Sign Ordinances, Small Wind Energy Systems, and Accessory Dwelling Units; developing Stormwater Management Ordinances and code enforcement ticketing process; and facilitating annual Capital Improvements Planning and master plan updates. Sarah is the President of the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association (NNECAPA) and serves on the Executive Committee of the New Hampshire Planners Association (NHPA) as Secretary, after serving as President from 2010-2014, She also serves on the Nashua Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Karen Marzloff is co-founder and director of the non-profit Seacoast Local and its “Buy Local” campaign, a network of nearly 300 business and community members who are working to grow an economy that is more local, green and fair. Karen is also co-founder of The Wire newspaper and the RPM Challenge, and a founding board member of PS21, engaging community-wide conversations about sustainable planning.

Lauren Masseria is the Senior Agricultural Development Specialist for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. At the Agency, Lauren reviews all developments subject to Act 250 for any Primary Agricultural Soil impacts and provides an analysis for the Environmental District Commission. Prior to her work in Vermont, Lauren worked for the Project for Public Spaces to provide consulting and technical assistance to communities all over the country on public space management and planning. Lauren is a member of the American Planning Association, has a Bachelor’s of Arts in Environmental Studies and a Masters in Urban Planning from Hunter College.

Michael McCrory – Over the past 18 years Michael McCrory has developed expertise in the interrelationship between community identity and individual sense of place in a changing rural landscape and has recently transitioned to serve as City Planner for the City of Claremont. As Senior Planner at Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission he was responsible for a broad range of planning initiatives that affect the region and its constituent towns. Mike’s personal interests lean toward community resilience and equity issues and putting it into practice to benefit the landscape, residents (particularly vulnerable populations) and local economies.

Steve Miller is the Coastal Training Program Coordinator at the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, where he provides science-based training and resources to municipal decision makers. Prior to this he was the Program Director at the Seacoast Science Center. Steve earned a M.S. in Ecosystem Ecology and Wildlife from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Steve has worked in the environmental education field for over 30 years. Steve is the Chair of the Portsmouth Conservation Commission and is the Co-Chair of the New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup.
Bob Mitchell, FAICP is the Principal of his own consulting business in Boston MA. With over 35 years’ experience at the state, regional and local levels and with non-profit organizations, he specializes in land use and zoning topics; comprehensive & strategic planning; and sustainable development. He provides training programs to public officials and professionals on land use, ethics, and meeting management topics and has conducted ethics sessions at state, regional, and national planning conferences for more than 20 years. He was the Planning Director for Amherst, MA and Burlington, VT and is the former Special Assistant for Sustainable Development for Massachusetts. He is a former President of the Massachusetts Chapter of APA, current Chair of the Sustainable Development Committee of the Chapter and a former Region I Commissioner on the American Institute of Certified Planners Commission. He is a Fellow of AICP.

Clay Mitchell has worked in municipal planning, energy and law for the last 20 years. He is currently on faculty at the University of NH teaching these same topics across several degree programs. His experience includes a diverse range of projects in local, state and regional planning and policy and has found teaching to be his true calling. He has a JD and Master’s in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School and a Ph.D. in Natural Resources and Earth Systems Science from UNH.

Tom Morgan is a municipal planner who began his professional career as an architectural historian. During the late 1980’s he chaired Portsmouth’s Zoning Board of Adjustment, a land use board whose duties include adjudicating appeals of Historic District Commission decisions. The city’s historic district is among the oldest and most extensive in northern New England.

David Moore is the Assistant City Manager for the City of Portsmouth where he is responsible for special projects in community development, parks and open space, recreation, cultural resources and other public facilities. He also leads the City’s Community Development Department. He served as the City’s project manager for the African Burying Ground and Memorial Park. He has worked for the City since 2003 and serves on the Board of the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority.

Alan Mountjoy is the manager of urban design projects at NBBJ’s Boston studio. Alan has more than 25 years of national experience in the fields of architecture, master planning and urban design. He has served as project manager for projects that range from architectural elements and urban design for a $110M highway renovation in Cincinnati, to PUD plans for the first major redevelopment in Reunion Square in Washington, D.C. In his role as urban design manager, he coordinates diverse teams of professionals in architecture, landscape architecture, real estate economics, transportation planning and environmental engineering.

Christopher Parker, AICP, is the Assistant City Manager: Director of Planning and Strategic Initiatives for the City of Dover New Hampshire. Chris has been employed by the City of Dover in various capacities since 1997, and focuses largely on land use and transportation planning functions with the community development arena, as well as overseeing downtown infill development projects. Among the projects that Chris has worked on for the City of Dover he is most proud of the McConnell Center a project where a 100,000 square foot former high school was rehabilitated into a human service hub for the Dover community, the development of the State’s first Form Based Code for Dover’s downtown, the development of a proactive customer service based planning and development process in Dover which encourages public participation and education, and a complete revamping of the City’s Capital Improvement’s Program, including multi-media elements to enhance the ability of citizens to understand and participate in this vital link between Dover’s Master Plan and financial policies. Mr. Parker lives in Dover, and was named the professional planner of the year.
for both the State of New Hampshire and Northern New England in 2011. He also is a member of the Leadership Seacoast class of 2012 and Leadership New Hampshire class of 2015.

**Kyle Pimental** has eight years of experience as a regional planner in southeastern New Hampshire, possessing a solid understanding of local community perspectives. He has experience in natural resource management, hazard mitigation planning, GIS mapping, and land use practices. He has been actively involved in developing local, regional, and statewide policy statements; addressing energy concerns; enhancing local water resource protection efforts; and implementing climate change initiatives.

**Marty Pottenger** is a theater artist, animateur, and social practitioner since 1975. She is the Founding Director of Art At Work (AAW), a national initiative that increases cities’ resilience through strategic art projects addressing contemporary social challenges. Nominated for National League of Cities ‘Best Practices’ award, AAW projects include police/community relations, racial segregation, labor/management conflicts, community health, and gentrification/homelessness. AAW partners with municipal/county governments, unions, community organizations, and artists, with current projects in Portland ME, Philadelphia, Boston and Broward County, FL. Pottenger’s plays include OBIE-winning “City Water Tunnel #3”; “ABUNDANCE: America & Money”, based on interviews with 30 millionaires and 30 minimum wage workers; and #PhillySavesEarth (2016). Her TEDx talk is on YouTube. http://www.martypottenger.com.

**Doug Roberts** is the current board chair of PS21. A longtime resident of Portsmouth, he created the website PortsmouthNH.com in 1996 and operated it until this year.

**June Hammond Rowan** is associate director of the Center for the Environment (CFE) at Plymouth State University (PSU) and a research assistant professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy. At PSU, she teaches courses in land use planning, land conservation, and outreach in addition to working on a variety of environmental planning and outreach projects helping to connect CFE and PSU to the region. June previously worked as a land use planner for the communities of Berlin and Plymouth, NH. June has a B.A. in geography from the University of Chicago, a M.A. in geography from the University of Colorado, and an Ed.D. from PSU.

**Rick Sawyer, AICP**, serves as Town Manager for the Town of Bedford, New Hampshire. Prior to being named Manager, Rick served as Planning Director and Zoning Administrator since 2007. Prior to working in Bedford Rick was the Deputy Planning Manager for the City of Nashua, New Hampshire, for ten years and began his professional career as a Landscape Architect for Berkshire Design Group in Northampton, Massachusetts. All combined Rick has 21 years of professional experience in community management, planning, and design. Rick currently serves on the Legislative Committee for the New Hampshire Planners Association and is a former member of the Executive Board serving as the Legislative Liaison. Rick is a 2014 graduate of the Leadership New Hampshire program. Rick’s work in Bedford has been recognized with the 2010 Master Plan being named Plan of the Year by the New Hampshire Planners Association and the Bicycle and Pedestrian Connectivity Master Plan being named Plan of the Year in 2014 by the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association. Rick lives in Exeter with his family.

**Dee Schneidman** is the Research Manager at the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), where she oversees data collection, documentation, and creative economy activities. These include the New England Creative Economy Reports on the creative sector and its nonprofit subset; CreativeGround: New England’s online directory of creative assets; regional events such as the Creative Communities Exchange; knowledge-sharing projects and NEFA program evaluation.
Will Schoefmann is the GIS Mapping Technician for the City of Keene. Will has been with the Planning Department for eight years managing both the City’s GIS System and helping manage its Bicycle/Pedestrian Path network. His work in the realm of bicycle and pedestrian transportation planning includes writing and managing state and federally funded grants, bicycle and pedestrian master planning as well as system analysis, mapping and use studies.

Lynne Seeley is a community-planning consultant with 25+ years of experience in comprehensive planning, public participation, and land use assessment of transportation projects. Lynne currently contributes comprehensive planning services to Maine Design Workshop, a collaborative of professionals providing planning and design services to communities and other clients. Lynne has provided planning services for community planning and transportation projects for the engineering firm Sebago Technics. Lynne has written Educational Briefs for GrowSmart Maine on a variety of “smart growth” topics. For 15 years Lynne worked for Wallace, Floyd, Associates (WFA), managing transportation planning projects, developing and managing multi-dimensional public participation programs and establishing a community planning focus for the firm in Maine. Lynne is Vice President of MAP, chair of her town’s Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, and currently involved in implementation of a new form-based code for Yarmouth. Lynne has an M.A. from Tufts University in Urban and Environmental Policy and is an accredited member of the Congress for the New Urbanism.

Paul Shea hails from Nashua, NH, where he serves as the Executive Director of Great American Downtown, a non-profit organization with a mission centered around economic and cultural vibrancy in Downtown Nashua. Shea also serves as a director for the Peacock Players, as a member of the Steering Committee of iUGO - Nashua’s young professionals networking group, as an advisory committee member for City Arts Nashua, on the City of Nashua’s Summer Fun Committee, and is a founding member and President of Gate City Community Gardens. Shea has a Bachelor’s in Science from Rivier University, and is a Master Gardener with the UNH cooperative extension. Shea lives in Downtown Nashua’s French Hill neighborhood with his wife Julie, their dog Andrew, and four outstanding cats, Nessie, Tuxedo, Vivian, and Kitty Boy.

Stephanie A. Smith, AICP, is a Chief Policy Enforcement Officer for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets where she participates in the development and implementation of land use policies, programs supportive of the agricultural industry, and farmland protection and access. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and worked for municipal government in a variety of capacities, including in the Municipal Assistance Center at the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from Boston University and a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia.

Douglas W. Steele II is the Deputy City Manager: Community Services Director for the City of Dover New Hampshire. Doug has been employed by the City of Dover in various capacities since 1990. His responsibilities include oversight of Public Works, Storm Water, Fleet Services, Engineering, Environmental Programs, Water and Sewer Utilities, Curb Side Recycling and Trash Pickup, Facilities, Grounds and Cemeteries. He currently has approximately 60 employees working in these areas providing many award winning services to the community. He is a member of the American Public Works Association, The New England Water Environment Association, The American Water Works Association, New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association and the New Hampshire Water Works Association. Doug lives in Dover with his wife and two children, and has been a resident for the past 38 years.

Amanda Stone is State Specialist – Natural Resources and Land Conservation, with UNH Cooperative Extension (UNHCE). She provides technical assistance, guidance and facilitation to communities and conservation groups on climate adaptation, land conservation planning, natural resources protection, and education and outreach planning. Amanda is a
member of the NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (CAW), a collaboration of more than 20 organizations working on coastal climate change issues.

Kim Szeto is Program Manager for the Creative City Program at the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA). Creative City is a pilot program providing grants and technical assistance to Boston artists to create works that take place in the public realm. Prior to joining NEFA, Kim worked with Boston Public Schools’ Department of Food and Nutrition Services to bring healthy, locally sourced options to the school food program. In 2014, Kim was selected to be a part of the Next City Vanguard, made up of 40 urban leaders under the age of 40 making positive impacts in cities across the U.S.

Rick Taintor is Planning Director for the City of Portsmouth, NH. He has nearly 40 years of planning and community development experience, including 18 years as a municipal planner and 21 years as a consultant to municipalities and state and federal agencies. In his current position he supervises staff support to the City’s boards and committees; manages land use, transportation and environmental planning activities; and assists residents, property owners and permit applicants with land use and development issues. As a consultant and principal in his own firm, Rick directed comprehensive and strategic plans, zoning revisions, and development review services for New England cities and towns as well as regional tourism, economic development and scenic corridor management programs and projects.

Sandrine Thibault, AICP, CNU, is Director of Comprehensive Planning & Municipal Services for Town Planning & Urban Design Collaborative (TPUDC). Prior to joining the TPUDC team, Sandrine worked in the public sector (State, regional, and municipal) for 13 years, mainly in the states of New Hampshire and Vermont. She has extensive experience in long-range land use planning, the development of comprehensive plans and zoning regulations, and management of public outreach and engagement processes. As Principal Planner with the City of Burlington, Vermont for over 7 years, Sandrine was instrumental in the development of the award-winning planBTV - Downtown & Waterfront and Form-Based Code. In part because of her work on this innovative planning endeavor, Sandrine was awarded 2013 Professional Planner of the Year by the Northern New England Chapter of the APA.

Jared Ulmer, AICP, is the Climate & Health Program Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Health. In this role, Jared collaborates with state, regional, local, and non-governmental partners to identify anticipated climate change impacts on health in Vermont and to develop and implement adaptation strategies to help mitigate anticipated health impacts. Prior to joining the Vermont Department of Health, Jared worked as a consultant for Urban Design 4 Health, where he conducted research on the community design influences on health, developed scenario planning tools to forecast the health impacts of land use and transportation plans, and worked with communities to implement healthy community design principles. Jared has Masters Degrees in Urban Planning and Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia and in Epidemiology from the University of Washington.

David White is the Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Burlington, VT - Vermont’s largest city with a population of ~42,000 nestled on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain and between New York’s Adirondacks and Vermont’s Green Mountains. Prior to becoming Planning Director in 2007, David served as Burlington’s Comprehensive Planner where he was responsible for all long-range planning in the City. In his 20+ years of service to the City, David has had a hand in helping to maintaining Burlington’s place as one of the country’s most livable and dynamic small cities. He has played a lead role in the creation of the award winning planBTV: Downtown and Waterfront Master Plan, Open Space Protection Plan, the North Street Commercial District Revitalization Plan, the Burlington Transportation Plan, and a comprehensive revision of the Burlington Comprehensive Development Ordinance to name only a few. His current planning adventure is the development of a comprehensive master plan for the city’s south end arts and industrial
district, and a form based code for the city’s downtown and waterfront area. David was admitted to the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) - the professional institute of the American Planning Association - in 1997. In addition to being a past-president of the Northern New England Chapter of the APA, he currently serves on the National Membership Standards Committee of the AICP. Recently, David was recognized by the Vermont Planner’s Association as their 2016 Mark Bloucher Professional Planner of the Year. David holds a Master’s Degree from Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences received in 1989, and a Bachelor’s Degree in Geography from the University of Vermont received in 1984.

Roberta Woodburn was the Landscape Architect for the African Burying Ground and Memorial Park and worked with City’s Blue Ribbon Committee from 2007 to 2015. Since opening Woodburn & Company in New Hampshire in 1994, Ms. Woodburn has directed its growing reputation for thoughtful and creative landscape architectural design. She has been a member of the Durham Main Street Board of Directors and of the Town of Durham Zoning Board of Appeals. In addition to the African Burying Ground, recent project work RiverWoods New at Twenty Landscapes, numerous projects for the University of New Hampshire, including the Renovation of Conant Courtyard, as well as the Shapleigh and Mitchell School Landscapes in Kittery, Maine.

Brian Wright is the Founding Principal of Town Planning & Urban Design Collaborative (TPUDC). He began his career at Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company. Over the years, he has worked on many comprehensive and master planning projects across the country, including in Lewiston, Maine; Londonderry, NH; Charleston, SC; Burlington, VT; and Carmel, IN. Most recently, he has been involved the process of generating user-friendly and graphically rich plans and regulating documents for the City of Burlington, Vermont and the Town of Yarmouth, Maine. Brian leads the public outreach, design and big picture strategy for TPUDC projects. As a highly skilled public speaker, Brian is an expert in public outreach and engagement. He has the unmatched ability to manage differing opinions through open and informative dialogue and discussion with the community, even when related to controversial or sensitive topics. Brian utilizes subtlety, humor and intellect to engage, inform, and entertain public participants, gaining trust and inspiring people’s imaginations. Brian’s ability to lead dynamic and successful public engagement processes assists communities in reaching consensus where none could be reached before. Brian holds a Master of Landscape Architecture and a Bachelor of Environmental Design from Auburn University.

Gerald (“Jerry”) Zelin, a long-time resident of Portsmouth, he has been actively involved on a volunteer basis in land use law issues regarding the city’s historic downtown and the adjacent North End. He is an attorney who specializes in representing school districts throughout the State of New Hampshire.
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