

**CITIZENS COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 13, 2006**

**SUMMARY**

**Attending:** Sue Smith, Christie Corrigan, Ruth Castonguay, Dick Wallace, Rick Keller, Nancy Porosky, Emily Clement, Sarah Fox, Micheline Roy, Mary Alice Warner.

**Guests:** Judge Bud Martin, Jim Carroll

**Staff:** Alan Robichaud.

**Review of Proclamation**

Alan Robichaud reviewed key points of the Proclamation as the founding document of the Council. Signed by the County Commissioners on November 18, 2001, it continues to direct our role in Belknap County.

**Reaffirmation of the Council Vision and Mission**

Sue Smith called for reaffirming the Council's current vision and mission. On a motion made and seconded (Mary Alice Warner/Nancy Porosky), the Council unanimously reaffirmed its mission and vision for 2007.

**2006 - Year in Review**

Alan Robichaud reviewed Council and member accomplishments for 2006. A copy of his remarks is attached for reference.

**Proposed 2007 Budget**

Alan Robichaud reported that the budget cycle is progressing as expected. A public hearing was held at the County Complex on December 11. The Council's budget is proposed at \$311,223, with \$100,000 being the grant initiatives line item (in/out account) therefore making the operating budget \$211,223. Due to rise of expenses in other county departments, the Council lost its request for capital appropriations which we may be able to absorb over the year in alternative account transfers, as necessary. Overall, we have fared very well and the Commissioners continue to see our work as valued throughout the county.

**Special Recognition Award**

In acknowledgement of his tremendous leadership and support over the years, Sue Smith presented Judge Martin with an engraved glass award, celebrating our five year anniversary and marking the completion of the financial support of the Schmitt Foundation. The 2007 Council budget is completely county funded. Sue's comments are attached for reference.

**Recognizing Retiring Council Members**

The Council recognized the contributions of the following retiring members: Dick Wallace, Kevin Washburn, Jim Pilliod and Peter Michaud. Dick Wallace was the only one of these members in attendance and was awarded an engraved glass award recognizing his 6 years of wonderful contribution to both the Council as well as to his community. We thank Dick and the other members for all their fine accomplishments over the years and invite them to remain active in Council activities and initiatives.

### **Election of Officers**

Sue Smith called for the election of officers. Ballots were distributed, collected and counted. The results were as follow: For 2007, the Chair shall be Sarah Fox and the Vice-Chair shall be Ruth Castonguay. We thank Christie Corrigan for her willingness to assume leadership in running for Council Chair and for her many contributions to numerous initiatives throughout the year.

### **Comments for outgoing and incoming Chairs**

Sue Smith recounted the many accomplishments the Council had made this past year and recalled the various people who came before the council in presentation and acknowledgement of contributions made in regard to the Council's mission. In quoting a familiar passage that a large percentage of life is showing up, Sue complimented the Council on "showing up" and doing Council work. Because of them, Belknap County is a more safe place where children and families can live with dignity and respect.

Sarah Fox thanked the Council for their support and looks forward to the challenges ahead building on the work that has taken place.

### **Other Business**

Mary Alice Warner made several comments complimenting the work of Council staff for their work throughout the year. Many thanks Mary Alice.

With that, the work of the Citizens Council for 2006 was formally acknowledged and closed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Alan Robichaud*

### **NEXT MEETING**

**DATE: January 19, 2007    TIME: 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM**

**LOCATION: Busiel Mill, Laconia**