

NNECAPA Executive Committee 2024-2025

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President's Corner

As we count down the final weeks of 2023, I want to thank all of our members, volunteers, and Executive Committee for being part of the NNECAPA community for another year!

2024 brings the start of a new term for your Chapter Officers, and I'm excited to serve with a fantastic group of volunteers from across our region! A big welcome to Dayea Shim, Angela Cleveland, and Erin Zwirko as new officers on the Executive Committee. I look forward to having their expertise and ideas! I'm grateful to Jeff Levine for stepping up to the VP role and for hitting the ground running with those responsibilities this fall. And a huge thanks to all of the Executive Committee members who are continuing their service in the year ahead. Thanks also to former Committee members Cat Bryars, Cat Ingraham, and Sarah Marchant for their support during the 2022-2023 term. In particular, a huge shout out and thanks to Sarah for her many years of service as our Chapter President and PDO! Thanks to Natasha Kypfer for chairing this year's Conference Organizing Committee, and to Nancy Kilbride and our Sustaining Sponsors for supporting our work all year round!

As you celebrate the holidays with friends and loved ones, make sure you treat yourself—by logging your AICP CM credits before the end of the year (more on page 6)! On behalf of NNECAPA, wishing you all a Happy New Year!! -- *Meagan Tuttle, AICP*

2023 Northern New England APA Award Winners

It was another banner year for the Northern New England APA Awards! Congratulations to the planners, communities and partners that have been so integral to creating great communities for all.

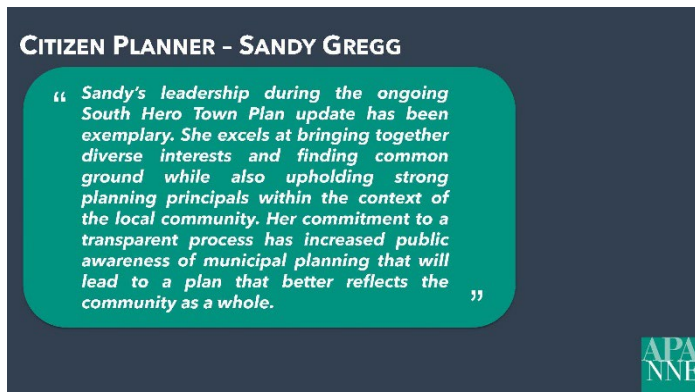
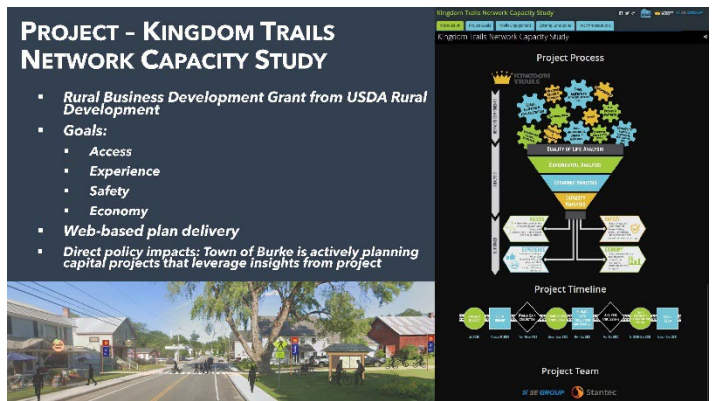
Plan of the Year | Town of York, Maine
Comprehensive Plan

Project of the Year | Kingdom Trails Network
Capacity Study, Burke Vermont

Professional Planner of the Year | Noah
Hodgetts, NH Office of Planning and
Development

Citizen Planner of the Year | Sandy Gregg,
South Hero, Vermont

Planners Emeritus | Ross Moldoff, AICP;
Elizabeth Della Valle, AICP; Jane Lefleur



PLANNER EMERITUS - ROSS A. MOLDOFF

“Ross has been a fixture of the Planning Community since his start at the Rockingham Planning Commission. I can personally attest that the opportunity to work directly with him was a factor in choosing my own employment here. I have known him and respected him through my entire career. I know I'm not alone. Ross deserves recognition by his peers ...”

- **Highlights**
- **Town of Salem, NH**
- **Design Guidelines**
- **Non-Residential Growth**
- **Affordable Housing**
- **Tuscan Village**
- **Canobie Lake Park**



PLANNER EMERITUS - JANE LAFLEUR

“Jane's contributions to Maine's planning sector are too numerous to count, and impossible to quantify. From collaborative work with DOT in the early 2000's, to project management of the Orton Foundation's Heart & Soul process in Damariscotta, to her educational role in numerous workshops and forums, Jane's body of work - and her work ethic - have increased the understanding of how planning works in Maine, and even more importantly, why it matters.”

- **Highlights**
- **Community Heart & Soul**
- **Friends of Midcoast Maine**
- **JB Lafleur Consultants**
- **Conway, NH**
- **South Burlington, VT**
- **MAP & NNECAPA**



PLANNER EMERITUS - BETH DELLA VALLE

“Beth understands the importance of visualization and design in helping people see their way to quality futures. Toward this end, Beth routinely collaborated with designers, architects, and spatial analysts in delivering complete experiences and products for her clients. Incorporating these perspectives has always enriched the process and strengthened interdisciplinary relationships.”

- **Highlights**
- **Sanford, ME**
- **Mill Yard**
- **Maine State Planning Office**
- **Coastal Program**
- **Damariscotta Heart & Soul Planning Charrette**
- **Bar Harbor Comprehensive Plan**
- **South Portland, ME**



2023 Northern New England Planning Conference Recap

It was great to see over 300 people at the 2023 Northern New England at Wentworth by the Sea in Newcastle, NH. Kudos to the Conference Organizing Group, speakers, exhibitors, panelists, and everyone else who played a role in making this conference a success. Please visit the [NNECAPA Conference website](#) for the presentations for the sessions at this year's conference.

Save the Dates: the 2024 Northern New England Planning Conference is at the Stoweflake in Stowe, Vermont, October 28-30th and Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine, November 3-5th, 2025.

Friends from New Hampshire and Maine catching up



Your NNECAPA Board of Directors & Section Presidents





**Great turnout for the
NNECAPA Social with
Exhibitors ~ Appetizers &
State Cocktails**

**Full house for
the Annual
Awards
Luncheon!**



THANKS to our 2023 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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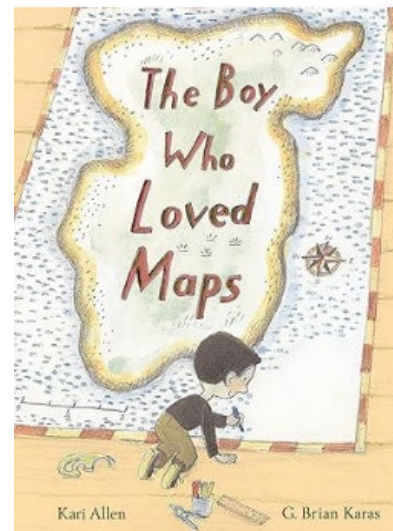
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The Boy Who Loved Maps

Contributed by Donna Benton, Dover, NH

Most of us planners love maps so I wanted to share this children's book, *The Boy Who Loved Maps*, which is written by a NH children's author Kari Allen who lives in Concord, NH and has had several different books published in the last 18 months. This adorable book follows a young cartographer as he attempts to satisfy a local girl's wish with a map of the perfect place. The illustrator G. Brian Karas is well known and captured the story nicely with the theme of appreciating the community around you. Having kids start thinking about placemaking at a young age can spark a future interest in our planning field from GIS to transportation to architecture and beyond. We can all use more planners coming into our region so why not start them out at a young age?



Got News?

Got some news to share? An article you've been aching to get out into the planning world? A photo of a great urban or rural community? A poem that Planners need to read? Send it along for the Winter 2024 Edition of Yankee Planner. Until then, Happy Holidays and see you next year!

Addressing Mount Desert Island's Housing Crisis

By Susanne Paul, Senior Planner + GIS Analyst, The Musson Group

Last March, more than 70 local leaders from Mount Desert Island (MDI) gathered for an all-day meeting to discuss the various efforts underway or in planning to address MDI's housing crisis. The Musson Group, a local land use planning and economic development firm, led a steering committee of seven individuals representing nonprofit, community planning, and real estate, local business perspectives to plan and lead the MDI Housing Solutions Summit. Ideas generated and shared at the event were captured in the MDI Housing Solutions Summit Summary Report.



Following the success of the summit, this effort evolved into the MDI Housing Solutions Initiative. On behalf of the Housing Solutions Steering Committee, the Musson Group applied for and received a \$75,000 grant from the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development's Housing Opportunity Program (HOP), to facilitate the implementation of projects identified at the 2023 Housing Solutions Summit. The Musson Group was one of thirteen recipients in the state to receive this grant award, which was supported by all four MDI towns, Friends of Acadia, Island Housing Trust, and Mount Desert 365.



Since the March summit, the Musson Group has been planning and facilitating island-wide housing efforts in close coordination with IHT, municipal governments, and local businesses, institutions, and nonprofits. Local nonprofits have met to discuss possible sources and means to raise more money for new housing opportunities. MDI residents in the creative sector are meeting regularly as part of this initiative to talk about how efforts are described and conveyed, the importance of historical perspectives, and the potential for new graphical storytelling that could expand the

understanding and already growing support for housing efforts.

A Housing Solutions Summit is in the works for 2024, to provide an opportunity to follow up on the progress over the past year and to continue to build on previous and ongoing efforts. To follow the MDI Housing Solutions Initiative, check out the website at www.mdihousingsolutions.org.

CONTINUED GRATITUDE TO OUR ANNUAL SUSTAINING PARTNERS

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PDO Corner

Dayea Shim is NNECAPA's new Professional Development Officer - welcome Dayea! She is jumping in with both feet and providing her first update for the newsletter in her very own **PDO Corner** focused on APA and AICP updates. Enjoy!

Log your 2022-2023 AICP CM Credits!

The end of the year marks the end of the current CM cycle for *all* AICP members. Don't forget to log your credits!

AICP Office Hours

The spring 2024 AICP certification cycle will be here soon! Information about the *One Path* process, deadlines, exam prep materials, etc. can be found on the [APA website](#). After reviewing the [eligibility materials](#) and [FAQs](#), please [register and join](#) APA staff for a Q&A on any (or all!) of the following dates:

- Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 11:00am CT
- Monday, February 12, 2024 at 1:00pm CT
- Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 12:00pm CT

Office hours are open to members and nonmembers. Questions? Please email AICP@planning.org.

AICP Certification Diversity Scholarship for the Spring cycle

Are you interested in a scholarship for the May 2024 AICP exam or the June 2024 Experience Assessment? The window to apply for the AICP Certification Diversity Scholarship will open January 8, 2023. Please visit the [APA website](#) for more information. Please direct all questions to AICP@planning.org.

Planning Webcast Series

NNECAPA participates in the Planning Webcast Series to offer free Certification Maintenance training to practicing planners. You can earn over 50 AICP CM credits each year online - at no cost because you are a NNECAPA Member. Check back often as we frequently add additional offerings. We are looking for content in 2024, so if you have ideas, please reach out to the Professional Development Officer, Dayea Shim, AICP: nneccapa.pdo@gmail.com.

Webcasts take place live on Fridays from 1:00 - 2:30 PM ET and are worth 1.5 AICP CM credits (for live viewing only) unless otherwise noted. For more information [visit their website](#).



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Experiencing the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

By Michael Behrendt, Durham Town Planner

The Town of Kittery and the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard hosted a bus tour of the shipyard as part of the NNECAPA conference on November 7th. It was a great tour. One cannot tell from outside the shipyard but there is a beautiful historic district in the center with numerous historic mid-19th century brick buildings. There are some fine granite buildings as well. The Commandant's residence is the centerpiece of the district. 8,000 people work at the shipyard every day. Only about 700 are members of the Navy.

The shipyard, established in 1800, used to build submarines but now only repairs submarines. When a submarine comes into the shipyard, it is overhauled and, according to the tour guide, comes out better than new, with all the updated gadgets and systems. New submarines are built by private companies, like Electric Boat in Groton, CT. Training is conducted at the site for Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) for pilots and others about how to survive in case of capture by an enemy.

Many wonder what will happen with the great old prison in the shipyard featured in the movie, *The Last Detail* with Jack Nicholson. The imposing castellated structure with its magnificent central tower has been moldering for decades now. It is functionally obsolete as it does not fit into the Navy's mission and structurally obsolete as it is built with nonreinforced concrete. The Navy would not be keen about selling or leasing it for private development being so close to the activities of the shipyard.

The shipyard does about \$1 billion in activity each year. There are four shipyards in the country that work on submarines – Portsmouth Naval Shipyard; Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, VA; Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, WA; and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hawaii. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard was a candidate for closure under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) project in the 1990s. It is surprising that this was contemplated given the importance today of the shipyard. It operates three shifts each day, seven days each week, typically completing projects ahead of schedule and under budget.

Grapevine

☛ Anne Krieg from Bangor, ME reports: Robyn Stanicki has been our Community Development Officer for 6 months and has taken our Block Grant Program to new heights! We also just promoted Anja Collette to Planning Officer. She now has to replace her position of Planning Analyst which is open! We also have many other positions to fill: Economic Development Officer, Business Development Specialist, and Community Development Analyst. We also have a newly created position for Housing Officer. Bangor is a great city that invests in its staff. We have a lot of city life here and in an hour, you can be hiking in Acadia or in Baxter, so the location is perfect. For more information, please visit:
<https://www.bangormaine.gov/employ>.

☛ Natasha Kypfer excitedly shares that she joined the Planning and Urban Development Department with the City of Portland as Planner in October 2023. Previously, she served as Zoning Administrator and Assistant City Planner with the City of Dover, New Hampshire.

☛ Paul R. Crouser has recently joined the City of Dover as Zoning Administrator and Assistant City Planner. Paul joins the team with a strong background in the legal field, serving as litigation support for corporate, land use, tort, and employment law cases. He also served as one of the City of Somersworth's Code Officers for almost 5 years, where he directed enforcement of the City's codes and ordinances, operating as its legal representative in District Court to further the City's development goals and to enforce housing standards for Somersworth's rental population. Paul resides in Somersworth and has been a proud resident since 2016, when he and his wife, Leah, moved to the NH seacoast from Juneau, AK. Paul enjoys music, surfing and climbing, and frequenting the area's local breweries with friends.

☛ Congratulations to the Island Institute Fellows who have been placed in various planning programs throughout Maine. Jim Fisher reports that he has been able to welcome Alice Cocherham to the Hancock County Planning Commission for two years as a Planning Fellow. Alice recently graduated from Bates College. For a full list of the 10 Planning Fellows, please visit the Island Institute's website: <https://www.islandinstitute.org/about/people/>.

☛ Noah Hodgetts, a Principal Planner in the Office of Planning & Development at the New Hampshire Department of Business & Economic Affairs, and his wife Sannie welcomed their second daughter, Sophie Bettina Hodgetts on June 30, 2023. Noah was also named the 2023 Professional Planner of the Year at the 2023 NNECAPA conference in New Castle, NH for his work on the development and coordination of several state and regional housing initiatives in New Hampshire.



- W Jim Donovan reports that he received the 2023 American Society of Landscape Architects Community Service Award at the Annual Conference on Landscape Architecture in Minneapolis in October. The Award was for continual pro bono service to my hometown of Charlotte, Vermont over the last 20 years, in addition to serving on the Town's Planning Commission and being the Town's representative to the Chittenden Regional Planning Commission for many years. Congrats Jim!

EDITOR



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