



GREENLAND COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT

**Greenland, New Hampshire
February 3 & 4, 2006**

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OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY PROFILES

The Community Profile is a process by which communities take stock of where they are today and develop an action plan for how they want to operate in the future. Whether the issue is a quality school system, an air pollution problem, lack of adequate affordable housing or solid waste disposal, the need for effective problem-solving skills is the same. A community must have strong leaders, from all sectors, who are able to work together with informed involved citizens to reach agreement on issues. The Community Profile assists communities to develop their problem-solving ability. It is a self-evaluation tool that draws heavily on the collective wisdom of the participants and is not a test or a comparison between communities. It provides a method for citizens to affirm community strengths, identify concerns and problems, and then to help a community structure collaborative approaches to meet these challenges creatively, set directions for the future, and manage change.

The original Civic Profile emerged from the Governor's Commission on New Hampshire in the 21st Century as a process and a mechanism that communities could use to strengthen their civic infrastructure. The National Civic League, along with several university studies, identified those qualities that make a community work - that help communities plan for the future and survive such dramatic change as extreme population growth, plant shut-downs or military base closings.

In 1995, the League of Women Voters in the Upper Valley, working with UNH Cooperative Extension and UVM Cooperative Extension, identified ten key qualities that help a community to work well and sustain its social, economic, and environmental health for the future. This is the model that was adapted by the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension and are the "tools" of the community's self-assessment.

**UNH Cooperative Extension
Greenland Community Profile
February 3 & 4, 2006
Agenda**

Friday Evening

5:30 Sign-In & Spaghetti Supper

7:00 Welcome – Michele Gagne, UNH Cooperative Extension and Mark Weaver, Steering Committee

- Overview of Community Profile Process
- Who is here?

Mosaic and Vision

- What is Greenland like now?
- What do we want Greenland to be like in the future?

Historical Overview – Paul Hughes

- Where has Greenland been?

7:45 Presentation of Community Profile components

- Effective Community Leadership
- Informed Citizen Participation
- Sense of Community
- Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals & Youth
- Lifelong Education and Learning
- Community Services, Facilities and Utilities
- Recreation and Cultural Heritage
- Working Landscape and the Natural Environment
- Economic Vitality
- Growth and Development
- Transportation

8:00 Break/Move into small groups

8:15 Small group discussions of components

Random assignments to small groups, one component per group

- Strengths of Greenland in the component area
- Challenges of Greenland in the component area
- What would you like to see in the future?
- What are the 5 key issues that need to be addressed?

9:30 Formal adjournment

Saturday

8:30 Light breakfast and check-in

9:00 Small group reports

- Each of the eleven small groups report to the large group, three minutes each

9:45 Selection of key issues – participants select small group/issues

10:15 Break

10:30 Small groups meet for key issue discussion

- Define the problem or opportunity
- Project goals – identify what you want to accomplish
- Identify potential projects/solutions
- Evaluate potential projects using impact-feasibility grid
- Select 3 projects to bring to the full group

12:15 Full Group: report back from small groups

12:45 Lunch and voting

- Which projects do you think we should move forward on?
- Which is the most important project for Greenland right now?

1:30 Individual selection of project development groups

Project development: small groups

- Who needs to be involved (agencies/individuals)
- Resources needed
- Other things needed to be done prior to follow-up meeting

2:00 Formal adjournment

Community Profile Friday Evening

The Community Profile was conducted at Greenland Central Elementary School over two days: Friday evening, February 3, 2006 and most of the day Saturday, February 4, 2006. About 140 participants attended on Friday with approximately 80 people attending on Saturday. The list of attendees was slightly different each day.

The event began on Friday with a spaghetti dinner. Michele Gagne, UNH Cooperative Extension, and Mark Weaver, Steering Committee, gave us an overview of the profile process and an introduction to the goals for the two days. The goal is strengthening community involvement; its key idea is sustainability - balancing economic and environmental factors while thinking about the impacts of our actions for the next seven generations.

We spent a few minutes meeting each other, learning how long we had lived in town, where we live in town and where we work. We were then asked to offer descriptions of what our town was like right now and what we would like it to be like in the future. Adjectives and phrases were called out and recorded on large easels labeled "NOW" and "FUTURE" at the front of the room. Here are the results:

THE MOSAIC - What is Greenland like today?

- aesthetically pleasing
- still rural
- strong neighborhoods
- full of opportunities for enjoying wildlife
- central park of Seacoast
- strong family values
- moderately favorable tax base
- SAFE!
- accessible to major highways
- growing
- a lot of volunteers/community organizations
- satellite community of Portsmouth
- great library
- next door to a potentially major airport
- great volunteer fire department
- efficient and friendly town staff
- terribly busy Rt. 33
- threatened by big box stores
- best friends here
- caring community
- salt water community
- wild turkey family
- great school
- town center
- lots of recreation opportunities
- small/tight community

- undeveloped/underutilized recreation potential
- use dump as meeting place
- very efficient Town Hall staff
- conscience with recycling
- still have some farms

THE VISION – What do we want Greenland to be like in the future?

- almost like it looks today
- leaders in ecological productivity
- Old Home Day where people get together
- place where children can afford to live
- large tax base to keep elderly in town
- bike trails
- better mosquito control
- arts center
- cottage industry
- cluster housing (mixed housing: conservation, recreation, pie in the sky)
- regional approach to services
- preserving and protecting current open space
- alternative to four lane highway (Rt. 33)
- lower speed limits on Rt. 33
- better plowing
- better parking for church and library
- Senior Center
- community newsletter
- some type of public transportation
- attractive commercial building
- small boat launch ramp – Tidemill Road
- lower speed limits on Post Road
- real stop light at Gallens Court
- no truck stop
- helicopters to fly in stuff delivered
- place for kids to go after school like a community center
- recreational bike path
- more pedestrian friendly
- look like it did in the 60's
- no malls!
- affordable houses for seniors
- place where our parents can afford to live
- place where you can stay
- places to walk in woods
- full service grocery store
- bank
- cluster housing
- quaint shops a thing of now/future not of past
- better public access to the bay

Greenland's History – Paul Hughes

Greenland's first English settlers came in the 1640s and 1650s. They probably arrived by water, and certainly settled on the shores of Great Bay and the Winnicut River. Capt. Francis Champernowne, who lived at today's Portsmouth County Club site, called his farm "Greenland," a name which soon came to be used for the whole western part of Strawberry Bank, Massachusetts, which in 1653 changed its name to "Portsmouth."

In 1671, what would become Portsmouth's North Congregational Church was founded, with Samuel Haines, who lived at today's 18 Tide Mill Road, as its deacon, and a buying ground for Greenland people was set aside on the east bank of the Winnicut. In 1675, John Johnson, who lived where the roads from Portsmouth, Exeter, and Hampton met, at today's 480 Portsmouth Avenue, was granted a tavern keeper's license, and became the first of many on the site. New Hampshire became a separate province from Massachusetts in 1679.

In June 1696, some Maine Indians who had killed 14 settlers in the Plains section of Portsmouth, and taken several captives, were found by the Portsmouth militia the next morning eating breakfast near today's Greenland-Rye line; the Indians were driven off, and their captives rescued. Within 15 years the place where the rescue occurred was being called "Breakfast Hill." A state historical marker for Breakfast Hill is on the east side of U.S. One, near the Abercrombie and Finch restaurant.

In 1705, Greenland, which had about 320 people, got permission to have its own church and school; a meetinghouse, around which Hillside Cemetery soon grew up, was built on the southeast corner of today's Portsmouth Avenue and Cemetery Lane, and William Allen, a recent Harvard graduate, was hired as a lay preacher and teacher in 1707. He was ordained in 1712.

The Weeks Brick House was built around 1710 by Samuel Weeks, probably where his father Leonard had settled in the 1650s. Greenland became a separate town in 1721, and got its own General Assemblyman in 1732. In 1756, a new meetinghouse was built at the site of today's Community Church, and a young Princeton graduate, Samuel Macclintock, was hired to assist and eventually succeed Mr. Allen, who died in 1760. A census in 1767 showed Greenland with 805 residents; it wouldn't have that many again until the 1950s.

The Boston Tea Party in December 1773 encouraged anti-British activity here as well; the town elected two members to a Provincial Congress that competed with the legal Assembly. In December 1774, Paul Revere rode down Post Road – the road used by mail carriers between Boston and Portland – to urge the patriots of Portsmouth to their raids on Fort William and Mary. About 100 Greenland men participated in the American Revolution; most served close to home, but some joined the Continental Army, and three became officers.

When New Hampshire's first postwar constitution went into effect in 1784, Mr. Macclintock, as one of the state's most respected ministers, was asked to preach a sermon on the occasion. In 1789, President George Washington spent an hour or two in Greenland while visiting New England. In 1796 Ona Judge, a slave of Martha Washington, escaped Philadelphia on a ship bound for Portsmouth; she brought her two young daughters to Greenland in 1803, and lived on Dearborn Road until her death in 1848.

The 1800 census reported the town's population as 548; it would fluctuate between that figure and 800 for the next 150 years. In 1807, three elementary school districts were set up for Bayside and the eastern and southern ends of town; they would last for nearly 100 years. In 1807, Dr. Macclintock's successor, James A. Neal, died in his thirties, and no successor for him was available; a Methodist preacher, Rev. George Pickering, attracted many followers that year and the next, and a Methodist society formed in 1809. Ephraim Abbot, a Congregational missionary, settled here in 1813, and a new parsonage was built for him in 1814-5 at today's 47 Tide Mill Road. For over 100 years, Greenland would support both Congregational and Methodist societies.

John F. Parrott, who had a summer home at 272 Portsmouth Avenue, was elected a U.S. Senator in 1818, and served one term; he's buried in the family lot off Anne's Lane. John W. Weeks, a Greenland native who moved to northern New Hampshire as a child, served in the House of Representatives from 1829 to 1833. The town's first post office was established in 1820 in the tavern at 480 Portsmouth Avenue, and tavernkeeper Nathaniel Marshall was appointed postmaster. In 1824, Marquis de Lafayette stopped at the same tavern while on a tour of New England; a road then being built between Newburyport and Portsmouth, named Lafayette Road after him, diverted much traffic from Greenland, and tavernkeeping here soon became unprofitable.

In 1825 Brackett Academy, a private secondary school for boys and girls, with Mr. Abbott as principal, was built where the westerly part of the Central School now stands. It would later become Greenland Academy, then Greenland High School. In 1833-4 the Congregational meetinghouse was renovated so as to take on much of its present appearance. In 1837, Greenland's Methodist Society built a new church at 42 Post Road, which has served as a parish house since 1954.

The Eastern Railroad, extending north from Boston, reached Portsmouth in 1840, with a station off Breakfast Hill Road. It was there that the town's first telegraph and telephone devices were installed in 1850 and 1877, respectively. The town's school districts updated their building in 1847. The eastern district built a new brick structure, while the southern one enlarged a house at today's 354 Post Road. In 1849 the Portsmouth and Concord Railroad was opened between Portsmouth and Newfields, with a station on Portsmouth Avenue and one for Stratham, actually located just within Greenland. In 1860, Greenland gained a few hundred acres of land from Stratham, in the area of Willow Brook Avenue and High Street. About 80 Greenland men served in the Civil War; many local Democrats, followers of Franklin Pierce, left the Congregational Society to protest pastor Edward Robie's anti-slavery and pro-Lincoln sentiments. The town went about \$18,000 into debt paying bounties for enlistees, many of whom later deserted, and didn't pay it off till around 1880. A riot at the 1865 town meeting, in which both parties were at fault, foreshadowed the town's shift from a Republican to a Democratic majority in 1866, which lasted about 25 years.

New railroad stations were built for Stratham in 1870, at Breakfast Hill in 1872, and at Greenland village in 1880. In 1891, a cottage from a nearby farm was moved to today's 480 Great Bay Road, and became Bayside station, the town's fourth depot.

In 1881, the Congregational church was renovated, many trees were planted, the Parade area was beautiful, and the town's first gazebo was built by Judge John Frink in front of the former tavern

in which he lived. In 1882, telephones were introduced in a few private homes. A chapter of the National Grange, a farmers' improvement organization, was formed in 1892, and was a major force in the town's life for the better part of the century. Prospect Hill Cemetery, at the end of Cemetery Lane, was opened in 1896, and is still in use, though running out of space; the same is true of the Weeks Library, built in 1897-8. In 1900, a bridge was built to carry Breakfast Hill Road over the railroad tracks. In 1902, a street railroad, or trolley line was built between Portsmouth and Exeter. It was never profitable, even before automobiles became common, and was gone by 1916, but caused several changes in Greenland's way of life. High school students were able to travel to better schools in Portsmouth and Exeter, and did; Greenland's high school was closed, freeing the Brackett Academy building for use by all the town's fourth-through-eighth graders, while its first-through-third graders were put in the brick school, and the other two district schools were closed. A Masonic Lodge in town disbanded, as its members could now attend meetings in Portsmouth, while a greenhouse complex was built near 22 Post Road, drawing most of its customers from the trolley line. RFD mail service for people living at a distance from the post office began in 1904, using state-of-the-art equipment. The first electric lighting of Greenland's homes and streets took place in 1914.

29 men were presented medals by the town for their service in World War I. Dr. Edward Robie, having served as Congregational pastor for 65 years, died in 1917, aged 96; his youthful replacement died in the "Spanish flu" epidemic of 1918, which expedited plans for federation of the Congregational and Methodist societies that took place in the winter of 1922-3. Early in 1919, the town began to plan for an eight-grade central school building; this became urgent when the Brackett Academy building burned to the ground on December 16th. The new school, with four classrooms and an auditorium, was ready for occupation in October, 1920; it burned down in 1924, and was replaced by another, with nearly the same design.

In 1923, much of Portsmouth Avenue was paved for the first time; many farmers sold their stone walls to be crushed and used as a roadbase. As the town had no fire department, Packer and Norton Brooks were dammed in 1930 and 1931 to provide water that neighboring departments could use when they reached them (which was usually too late). In 1938, a newly formed Veteran's Association was given a lease on the unused brick school, which it bought for one dollar in 1947. Largely through the veterans' efforts, Veterans' Memorial Park was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1939.

The expansion of Portsmouth Navy Yard, in preparation for an anticipated second world war, added to Greenland's population in the late 1930s. 70 of the town's men and women served in the armed forces in that war. Wells to supply rapidly growing Portsmouth with needed water were dug off Post Road in 1942, and pipelines to deliver it were laid in 1943. The Federated Church adopted the name of "Community Church" in 1947. A series of arson fires in 1949-50 caused the veterans' association to agree to sponsor a volunteer fire department, which was incorporated in 1951. A firehouse was built at 445 Portsmouth Avenue in 1952. The New Hampshire Turnpike was opened in 1950, with four lanes which would be expanded to eight in 1973-4, but no local exits. The arrival of Pease Air Force Base in 1954 helped create another sharp rise in Greenland's population, which reached 1196 in 1960. The new base took over the Portsmouth Country Club golf course; the club voted to move to its present location in 1956, and opened its new course in 1957.

Railway passenger service between Portsmouth and Concord was all but ended in 1954, and that between Portsmouth and Boston via Breakfast Hill stopped in 1965. In 1957, state Route 101 (now 33) was rerouted around Greenland's center. The first enlargement of the Central School, which included its first gymnasium, took place in 1956-7, and soon proved inadequate; grades 7 and 8 were sent to Portsmouth Junior High School in 1964, but the Central School was enlarged further over the next two years, and the town's students were brought home again. The first Greenland post office not located in a private home or store was built in 1961, at 449 Portsmouth Avenue. The 1970 census showed a further increase in population, to 1784.

The town's first traffic light was erected at the intersection of Portsmouth Avenue and Route 101 in 1979; the selectmen apologized for it in the annual report. In 1980 the town office and a new fire station were opened; and the census recorded 2129 residents. The present post office was erected the following year.

The arrival of a truck stop at Portsmouth Avenue and Ocean Road in 1982 further complicated Greenland's traffic patterns, but a traffic light wasn't put up there till 1985. A combined memorial for veterans of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts was raised in Veterans' Park in 1989, listing 39 and 50 names respectively. 1990's population figure was 2768.

The Central School needed another major expansion in 1994, and yet another in 2004. In 1996, the Breakfast Hill bridge over the railroad track was torn down. We gained a new Methodist church on Great Bay Road in 1998; and a Congregational Church on Breakfast Hill in 2000; more dubious additions were a McDonald's in 1997 and a Dunkin Donuts in 1998. A new golf course opened on Breakfast Hill Road in 2000 and one on Winnicut Road in 2002. An expanded police station opened in 2003. And the 2000 census showed a population of 3208, with no reason to anticipate a decrease in the foreseeable future.

COMMUNITY PROFILE ELEVEN COMPONENTS

After we developed a mosaic and vision for Greenland and digested some of the history, Michele Gagne introduced us to the idea of discussing Greenland within the framework of 11 qualities which can be used to profile a community. These topics, drawn from the work of the National Civic League and adapted by UNH Cooperative Extension are important components of any successful community. These components make a community work well now and sustain the cultural, economic and environmental health and vitality for the long-term future.

Civic Infrastructure

Effective Community Leadership
Informed Citizen Participation
Sense of Community

Community Infrastructure

Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth
Lifelong Education and Learning
Community Services, Facilities and Utilities
Recreation and Cultural Heritage
Transportation

Environment

Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Economy

Economic Vitality
Growth and Development

Next, 11 small groups of approximately 13 people each were randomly formed, one group for each of the components. The small groups adjourned to various rooms where community trained facilitators lead the groups in their discussions and recorders made notes on more large tablets. Each group considered the definition of their component and examined the statement to be considered for their component to begin the discussion. Participants were asked to list the strengths of Greenland as they saw them, and then to list its concerns. Next the groups gave some thought to the problems and issues they thought were important to the town's future. Finally, each group was asked to identify five key issues that need to be addressed by the town. These were brought back to the whole group and highlighted in three-minute summations presented by a member of each small group on Saturday morning.

1. Effective Community Leadership

Facilitator: Dennis Varney

Recorder: Kyle Mooers

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Marcia Schallehn, Dennis Greenwood, Carol DeStefano, Ron Gross, Marie Hussey, Donna Lee Lewis, Bruce L. Dearbarn, Cynthia W. Smith, Rob Dowling

Statement of Purpose:

Healthy communities have, and develop, public leaders who work together to enhance the long-term future of the community. Community leadership must be responsive, honest, efficient, enlightened, fair and accountable. It should have the ability to bring the community together to participate in open, neutral dialogue on important issues.

Leaders should be representative of their community and should be able to envision an economically secure, environmentally sound and socially viable future. Leaders should understand the challenges facing the community and be able to take advantage of opportunities within the community and in cooperation with neighboring ones. Leadership should empower community members to assist in resolving community issues.

Statements a community should consider:

- Our leadership actively recruits, trains, and empowers new leaders.
- Leadership represents diverse community interests (age and gender groups, length of time they have resided in the community, culture, etc.).
- Community leadership demonstrates knowledge, accountability, professionalism, innovation and is results-oriented.
- Leaders involve local citizens in identifying community goals and resolving community issues.
- Leaders seek out opportunities to exchange information with citizens about community issues.
- Community leadership is proactive, dealing with critical issues before they become crises.
- Leaders demonstrate long-range (20+ years) thinking. They understand the impacts of their actions on the long term health and vitality of the community.
- Leaders share the responsibilities of the community with its members and empower others to help find solutions.
- Leaders are willing to consider and use creative methods for addressing challenges, and look for regional solutions where appropriate.
- Leaders discuss issues with other leaders in the region.

Group Response – Strengths:

- dedicated leaders
- commitment of citizens
- self sufficient
- willingness to volunteer
- concern for the future
- care for citizens
- rural atmosphere (keeping it alive)
- track record of good decisions

- town leadership is good at developing new leaders
- good balance between old and new leaders
- level headedness of citizens
- low department ratio with good fiscal management
- lots of open land due to good planning
- great town administrator

Group Response – Challenges:

- outreach to educate citizens on future and history
- more defined processes for town management
- avoiding transportation bottleneck needs to be addressed
- informing citizens (town newsletter)
- informing citizens what leaders can and cannot do
- letting citizens know how they can accomplish things
- better sense of accountability for volunteers
- keep seniors in mind
- create a wider tax base
- maintaining checks and balances
- more mid-level volunteers to support town management

Vision for the Future:

- more structure of town leadership
- improvement of cross communication
- well defined town architecture create zoning for a central district
- five person Select Board
- better town participation
- more opportunities for child recreation
- continued investment in school

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. central district
2. structured communication to the citizens
3. increase participation and recruiting
4. representation on behalf of seniors
5. continue education and review of town leadership structure including five person Select Board

2. Informed Citizen Participation

Facilitator: Moe Mayo

Recorder: Sara Bates

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: David Bourassio, Katie Fisher, Karen Johnson, Trudie Bergeron, Terry Mayo, Susan Stromgren, Jean Eno, Heidi Duncanson, Deborah Beck

Statement of Purpose:

In a healthy community, citizens actively participate through voting in local elections, serving on local boards, attending public hearings, and being involved in civic organizations and community activities. The increasing complexity of municipal operations is limiting the ability of government to meet community needs, escalating the importance of active citizen involvement and volunteerism.

All sectors within a community – private, public, and nonprofit – must each take responsibility for the community's civic education and exchange information with the public. All citizens need to develop knowledge and skills to contribute to community life. Shared problem solving and planning for the future as a community increases local pride and commitment.

Statements a community should consider:

- Citizens know how the system works and it is easy for newcomers to learn how to get involved in the community.
- People can find out easily what is going on in the community.
- We have a _____ level of volunteerism and philanthropy in the community.
- Civic education efforts involve the entire community.
- Schools, churches, youth and civic groups provide citizen education and promote community service.
- Citizens are actively recruited and involved in major projects.
- Citizens volunteer to serve on local boards and committees.
- Participation is proactive instead of reactive, facing community issues before they become crises.
- Civic organizations and local businesses actively contribute to community functions.
- Citizens have the information they need to make good decisions.
- There is both adequate and balanced media coverage of local events and issues.
- Local committees and boards communicate well with each other, the public, and with boards and committee throughout the region.
- Local citizens are actively involved in civic and business organizations and clubs that involved interaction with residents of neighboring communities.

Group Response – Strengths:

- safe area
- town's website good source of information
- town's library
- church offered a lot to kids (programs)
- good neighborhoods
- offered superb access to natural resources
 - Enjoyment
- school offers good resource for community connections

- involved citizens (new and old)
- location
- dedication of our volunteers
- access to major college and junior college
- good medical facilities
- compact intimate area
- involved citizens
- dedicated citizens
- a lot of people care about its future
- diversity in jobs and other community groups
- town government
- open spaces
- a lot of wildlife in area

Group Response – Challenges:

- balances on tax rate
- traffic
- more information on how the town is run
- if you don't have kids in school hear nothing
- keep in mind what we need for the future
 - making utilization of long term assets
- longer post office hours on Saturday
- aren't actively recruited and involved in major projects
 - what major projects should the town consider
- greater number of projects, greater numbers of outreach
- like to see a newsletter
- have no town newspaper, Portsmouth's paper didn't consider Greenland enough
- volunteerism
- need to motivate and educate, to continue on with a balance
- need for others outside of town, to ammindate
- don't have a community center
- if there was a community center people could get information on recreation, classes

Vision for the Future:

- trying to encourage more small businesses to offer money and time to town
- newsletter
- enhance website
- police office has a space above the facility, should be developed, instead of building something else
- library – use a community center as well
- had a rotational outreach, equally distributed
- group effort to keep neighborhood safe and clean
- outreach needs to focus on shared volunteerism (get everyone involved equally)
- use mail to communicate with the whole town
 - faster and cost effective
- people need to realize it isn't the town's responsibility to get you involved it is individuals
- more community information at town meetings or gatherings

- website needs regular updating
- volunteer boards send out information that specifically says what they are asking you to do
- communication
- can't expect people to volunteer, some can't
- if living here you should get involved, maybe there is a way to give them a packet on what is going on in the town
- community packet

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. balance in the tax rate by encouraging a balance in commercial input
2. increase information availability through communication within the town (website, newsletter, etc.) - encourage awareness
3. community center
4. seek to protect biodiversity (keep Greenland green)
5. traffic

3. Sense of Community

Facilitator: Barbara Fleming

Recorder: Meredith Hartmann

Spokesperson: David Phreamer

Participants: Glenn Bergeron, Paul Elm, Dan Kern, Pat Ferrelli, Martha Bates, Joanne Stevens, Cheryl Stromski

Statement of Purpose:

A sense of community is an intangible yet vital component of a healthy community. It encompasses elements such as image, spirit, character and pride, along with processes such as communication, inter-group relations and networking.

A community is made up of different people with different interests, experiences and backgrounds. These characteristics may divide a community into natural groups but there must be cooperation among them if the community is to work well as a unit. Increase communication and understanding of different perspectives among groups and within the community as a whole is an important factor in establishing a sense of community.

Villages, towns, and cities with a sense of community include those wherein all members: contribute to and hold a common vision for the future; respect and celebrate their heritage, diversity, and resources; share information; and develop and sustain an abundance of social networks and relationships.

Statements a community should consider:

- There is adequate communication among diverse groups in the community such as natives/newcomers, summer/year round residents, young parents, retirees, as well as business community, commuters, etc.
- Groups like the above are involved in identifying community goals and in resolving community issues.
- The community's heritage is celebrated regularly.
- There is a common vision for our community among members.

- Community members often put aside their differences to work for the common good of the community.
- All groups know how to become involved in the community.
- Formal and informal forums exist for sharing ideas and resolving public issues.
- Collective decisions which represent broad input are reached and implemented.
- The self image of the community is a positive one.
- Social and cultural diversity are celebrated in the community.
- Local government is inclusive of all groups in its long-term planning and visioning efforts.
- Community members are proud of the community's character.

Group Response – Strengths:

- size of town
- downtown is separate
- sense of community
- lots of people involved
- strong leaders who are community oriented (church leaders/library)
- smart people involved
- still small
- everyone wants same thing in community
- resourceful
- activities supported (extra curricular activities supported)
- nice neighborhoods
- strong relationships

Group Response – Challenges:

- town communication
- not enough meeting places
- difficult to get into community
- town wide activities needed (build off of 275 year anniversary)
- heritage not celebrated as much anymore
- lacking town center (place for all groups)
- can't walk around town (make town more pedestrian friendly)
- communicating towns people's ideas to leaders
- culturally diverse activities
- finding a place for people to show what they do
- continuing education
- groups can't get involved easily
- kids need after-school center
- not everyone gets involved in problems, don't get everyone's input or participation
- need ways to get people involved, need ways to let people express themselves
- electronic communication needs improvement

Vision for the Future:

- need electronic communication
- need community bulletin board
- need an event to get to know one another
- need opportunities to participate

- need staff to support and get town wide activities going
- town should first make the effort to start things up
- place for names and occupations for town members to support one another if needed
- news in town needs to be mailed and sent through e-mail
- community “night-out” needed, neighborhood night-outs
- pod cast through internet of town news
- school expands events/activities to community
- explore community access channel
- Greenland community radio in ties with Portsmouth community radio

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. communicating (written, electronic, newsletter)
2. synergy between/among town entities (i.e. church, school, library, YMCA, town offices)
3. physical opportunities to meet (use existing venues)
4. improving connections (more pedestrian friendly, easier access between community resources, sidewalks with pedestrian crossings, bike paths)
5. mitigate the impact of Rt. 33 (make presence known)

4. Fostering Healthy Families, Individuals and Youth

Facilitator: Nate Hazen

Recorder: Kylie Heikkila

Spokesperson: Tony Mann/Coleen Peuacho

Participants: Edward Stromski, Jon Wendell, Wilfred Hubert, Jean Hubert, Jeff Jousset, Joanne Yeaton, Jerrian Hartmann, Scott Moylan

Statement of Purpose:

Most communities face a variety of challenging social issues, such as substance abuse, domestic abuse, poverty, and other concerns related to the elderly, youth, and families. Addressing these concerns effectively takes the coordinated efforts of the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Support services such as adequate child day care, comprehensive after-school, youth, teen, and senior programs, preventative health and substance abuse programs, parenting and family support programs, and effective human service networks help strengthen the social fabric of a community. Aided by effective communication, compassionate leadership, active citizen participation, and inter-group cooperation, a comprehensive package of supportive services will enable a community to nurture healthy community members.

Statements a community should consider:

- There are _____ local and/or regional programs available addressing the social issues of our youth, teens, seniors, parents and families.
- The health and social services are accessible, adequate and provided in an equitable manner.
- The three sectors (public, private and nonprofit) work together to provide a comprehensive package of programs.
- The majority of programs are of _____ quality.
- Community services are “cradle to grave”, addressing the entire age spectrum of the community.
- Local government provides an array of services for the community’s neediest members.

- There is adequate information about the available services and many community members utilize them.
- Many of the services allow families to participate together.
- Local government is responsive to emerging needs of community members.
- Local government considers and utilizes alternative methods of service delivery.

Group Response – Strengths:

- library programs
- safe community
- variety of ages
- thriving recreation department for children
- good school
- community church is strong
- good volunteer activities (Jason Hussey road race) good volunteer infrastructure, volunteer instigated youth activities
- ideal population size
- good library newsletter
- open space
- well maintained recreation fields
- excellent ambulance and emergency services
- volunteer town services result in lower costs
- efficient plowing services
- tranquility gives rise to healthy families
- location allows easy access to educational and mental facilities
- family-based circumstances provided to the community

Group Response – Challenges:

- need more community services
- need more effective community communication
- some roads impact mobility
- need for bicycle/pedestrian roadways
- need for public transportation for elderly
- taxes should be affordable for families
- need for community center
- more social services and activities for senior citizens
- need for musical/art programs for all ages
- make high traffic roads safer access
- routine health diagnostics in community center
- need more mosquito control
- more organized communication from government
- maintaining present balance between business and residential
- more public park areas – awareness of
- foster more public awareness

Vision for the Future:

- to have a community center
- to have an email news system from town hall of town activities
- to have a community van for health or medical reasons

- a better balance of provided services by age
- clearinghouse for research information
- Community Center provides
 - luncheons
 - bus trips
 - sports, dancing, cards
 - town band
 - medical screening/health diagnostics
- more continuity in bike and walking paths

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. community communication
 - web page with different departments
 - email address list
 - newsletter
2. need for senior services
3. making roadways safer and also pathways safer for drivers and pedestrians, including more bike paths, walking paths, etc.
4. center for community, possibly an existing building
 - art/music programs
 - transportation
 - sports, dancing, cards
5. keep taxes down to allow families to maintain a healthy lifestyle

5. Lifelong Education and Learning

Facilitator: Amanda Nelson

Recorder: Ashlee Iber

Spokesperson: R.D. Laurence

Participants: Paul Sanderson, Barbie Hazzard, Tina Wendell, Gail DeRoche, John Penacho, Betty Moylan, Rachel Willerer, Alison Mann

Statement of Purpose:

Education is a lifelong endeavor, much more extensive than just the K-12 school system. It starts at home, continued through childhood and the teen years, and progresses throughout adult life. People of all ages need to develop knowledge and skills in order to improve the quality of their own lives and those of their families, and to contribute more effectively to community life.

Programs of higher education and lifelong learning provide local businesses with a pool of trained employees. Other formal and informal learning opportunities allow community members to discover hidden talents and develop an array of interests and skills. Lifelong learning allows citizens to manage their lives more effectively in a changing economy and to participate in increasingly complex municipal operations with greater knowledge and skill.

Statements a community should consider:

- Educational opportunities are easily accessible and provided equitably.
- Lifelong educational opportunities, including formal and informal academic, vocational, artistic, and spiritual, meet the community's needs.

- School planning is forward thinking and open to regional solutions.
- There is an plentiful pool of skilled labor for local businesses to draw from.
- The level and quality of adult literacy programming in the community is _____.
- The public school facilities adequately meet community members' needs.
- There is a (n) _____ level of quality preschool and daycare opportunities in the community.
- There is good communication and cooperation between the municipal government and the local public school board.
- Local and regional employers actively support and are involved in the local K-12 public schools.
- The community supports and values high quality K-12 public school education.
- There is a support network for community members who home-school their children.

Group Response-Strengths:

- the school building itself
- qualified teachers
- parents involved in school system
- strong/committed school board
- high level of advocacy on all sides of school and educational issues
- welcoming school
- lots of sports and school activities
- adult recreational opportunities
- library accessible and staff hard working –library exceptional
- highly educated community
- great communication through town and library websites
- many library activities for kids and adults
- kids enjoy coming to school
- great school facility
- full high speed internet access in homes (capability)
- education is valued in community
- lucky to be near UNH to benefit from courses/facilities
- Stratham, McIntosh, Hesser – lots of continuing higher education opportunities in area
- valuable preschools in area
- high services of school district although school spending not as high “Bang for the buck”
- generous businesses in town

Group Response-Challenges:

- many people without kids in school feel disassociated because a lot of information goes through the school
- important for both low taxes and high quality education = as it is now
- large percentage of kids go to public high school, don't utilize Portsmouth Public High
 - drains some promising kids from PHS
- Portsmouth High School system a disgrace (block scheduling)
- when your kids leave school, families become disassociated
- teenagers lose connection to Greenland
- Greenland high schoolers have hard time fitting in at Portsmouth High School
- lack of high school choices

- self interest not always enlightened – polarization in fiscal issues for those who have kids in school vs. those who don't
- more conversation beyond K-8
- not a focus on lifelong education
- want more library opportunities
- need community newsletter – outreach program more people getting it
- town needs to get everyone involved in community, not just through school/church
- need more news coverage of town events in local newspapers
- transportation issue for elderly to get to the various opportunities
- do employers support school? Lack of money/support from large businesses in area
- no coordinated connection between businesses and school system – we need a connection
- need community connection to universities – doesn't exist (both ways)
- whose responsibility to know about resources?
- not taking advantage of local universities
- difficulty finding out what Greenland adults want to learn about, maybe poll?
- would like opportunity to share talents through community education various topics cooking, language, etc.
- we are a small community which brings challenges for funding and providing full options – maybe combine with other communities, use resources that exist and leverage our collective voices
- need liaison/resource person to partner with educational source to partner
- centralize communication about available resources
- difficulty of half-day kindergarten and after school care needed – working parents
- child centered programs for working parents needed, maybe all day kindergarten

Vision for the Future:

- cooperative high school: other alternative than Portsmouth maybe with other small towns, New Castle, Rye, etc.
- town operated communication center: links to lifelong learning
- citizens advisory committee
- full-day kindergarten and daycare (may be optional)
- choices kindergarten – optional half day, optional full day – consistent schedule
- keep taxes fair for retired/elderly and everyone
- more businesses (growth) for school funding
- balanced community
- taxes at reasonable level
- educational funding resolved number one issue for state
- newspaper that covers all towns better
- service clubs, Chamber of Commerce Greenland based, builds connections/communication
- transportation to educational opportunities
- school start a little later – 7:30 too early for little kids
- High School start later
- having a say in high school public school
- better high school education
- change in governance/representation at Portsmouth High School
 - school board, curriculum, calendar, discipline
- encouraging people to stay in public school system

- reconnecting with teenagers
- newsletter (less money than newspaper)

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. develop and execute an internal communications strategy (and advisory committee)
2. more representation and ability to execute change in Portsmouth school system
3. support working parents by creating quality childcare options (kindergarten, after-school, etc)
4. amalgamate educational opportunities with enhanced transportation options for all
5. funding sources for education (public and lifelong)

6. Community Services, Facilities, and Utilities

Facilitator: Heather Greenwood Recorder: Kimberly Greenwood

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Del Goolsby, Margaret Mooers, Dick Pinney, Rich Carlin, Dick Hazzard, Jo Ann Dionnr, John Coombs, Ellen Sargent

Statement of Purpose:

A community provides many essential facilities and services to its members – public facilities such as municipal buildings, schools, sidewalks, roads, libraries, a recycling center, and cemeteries, and services and utilities such as police, fire, ambulance, highway maintenance, water and sewer. These key functions consume the majority of tax dollars and sharply influence the community's quality of life.

Statements a community should consider:

- Public facilities and services such as _____ are needed in our community.
- The community's road system is adequate and well-maintained. The use of traffic controls (signs, lights, speed limits, police, etc.) is well-planned and coordinated.
- Our public water sources are protected.
- Our community does a great job of reducing, recycling and handling disposal of its waste.
- The town has a plan for financing the maintenance, expansion and replacement of its public facilities.
- The community is open to regional solutions for future infrastructure needs.
- Public buildings such as schools and town offices are adequate for our needs.
- Our public buildings are accessible to people with disabilities and are energy efficient.
- The community is easy to travel around by foot and bicycle.
- Officials address qualitative concerns about facilities and systems and utilize alternative methods of service delivery.
- Our officials are professional in meeting public facility, service and utility needs.
- Appropriate physical connections exist, such as public transportation between housing and job sites.
- The levels and quality of emergency services – fire, police, and ambulance – are _____.

Group Response – Strengths:

- school
- volunteer police and fire department
- freshwater access

- small town flavor
- recent updates to dump
- recycling progression
 - very available
- open space and rural
 - open land committee with 2 million dollar funding
- well maintained roads
- safe community
- constraints that keep character of town ex: McDonalds
- community members involved
- wonderful library staff
- high level of volunteerism
- high level of graduate education (student success)
- natural gas pipeline through town, large pipeline
- town meeting type of government
- multi-use of school buildings for community use
- friendly people
- original historic buildings preserved

Group Response – Challenges:

- no usable public access to Great Bay even though we have five miles of coastline
- freshwater system only covers center of town
- get volunteers for fire department
- more streetlights on the back roads
- ability to retain rural character
- keep taxes down
- maintaining open space and wildlife
- failure to have more modern zoning laws to allow cluster housing and more open green spaces
- new cemetery
- prevent state from putting four lanes on Route 33
- public transportation for elderly
- meeting increased demand for recreational trails and activities and sidewalks
- new sources of energy such as solar and other renewable energy
- streamlined town meeting and voting
- there is no sewer system, reliant on septic system
- keep going with recycling; take it a few steps farther-possibly mandatory

Vision for the Future:

- have some sort of community center
- develop town landing at Tide Mill Road
- new fire station
- have a road agent (make sure roads are plowed, etc)
- new recreational trails and sidewalks (such as “Rails to Trails Program”)
- new sources of energy (solar, etc.)
- stoplight at Gowen’s Corner without widening the road or Green Bay Road
- expand the water system
- have Greenland of the future look like Greenland of today

- preserve open space
- keep taxes down
- affordable housing
- public transportation
- cluster housing and senior housing
- roadway shoulders for bicyclers

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. access and preservation of natural resources (Great Bay)
 - a. recreational trails
 - b. boat ramp
 - c. conserve land and wildlife
2. infrastructure
 - a. public water system and sewage
 - b. sidewalks and shoulders
 - c. access to natural gas/renewable energy
 - d. street lights on back roads
 - e. new cemetery
 - f. traffic control
 - g. firestation
3. town services
 - a. maintain volunteer fire department services
 - b. restore road agent
 - c. streamline town meetings and voting
 - d. utilize existing spaces community services (teen, senior, community center)
4. adjustment to zoning regulations
 - a. allowance of cluster housing
 - b. preventing big box development
5. Smart Growth
 - a. prevent four lanes on Rt. 33
 - b. public transportation
 - c. keep taxes down
 - d. affordable housing

7. Recreation and Cultural Heritage

Facilitator: Nancy Bassett

Recorder: Abby Bassett

Spokesperson: Cheryl Strong/Jane Pinney

Participants: Mo Sodini, Andrea Carlin, Kathy Maddock, Jane Grant

Statement of Purpose:

Recreational and cultural activities nurture the body and soul of a community – individual and team sports, outdoor activities, art, crafts, music, dance, theater, holidays, festivals, and celebrations. Recreational opportunities allow community members to experience and appreciate the community's diversity of natural and human resources. Cultural activities reflect and build a community's positive sense of itself and strengthen the fabric of social interactions within the community.

Statements a community should consider:

- Our community celebrates itself in many different ways, including _____
- There is a wide array of recreational opportunities available to community members.
- There are special cultural centers, events and festivals within the community.
- These events are well known within and outside the community.
- There is a high level of awareness about and accessibility to available recreational opportunities.
- Our cultural events bring together and celebrate the community's diverse population.
- Many of the recreational opportunities allow community members to experience the community's natural resources.
- The community preserves and enhances what is special and unique about its cultural heritage.
- Children, youth, and seniors are encouraged to participate in cultural events.
- Citizens are part of larger regional cultural events.

Group Response – Strengths:

- the library – serves total population
- the historical society
- children's recreation department
- good volunteers for recreation department
- Winnicut River: skating, fishing, canoeing
- tennis courts
- sports fields: soccer, baseball
- the old fire station
- first post office, school, parish house/original buildings (small town feelings (close)
- New England: more culture
- more volunteering in small town
- many old structures in town
- town green (gazebo, etc.)
- minimum commercial activity
- original families in Greenland
- Summerfest (old strength)
 - no longer exists
- road races?
- community groups trying to provide recreation/cultural activities
- Greenland Womens Club
- pie festival
- library activities: game nights, chess, authors visiting
- land for boat access (Tide Mill Road) town access to the bay
- school talent show (shows, winter concert, etc.)
- fly-in
- dances (no longer exist) as frequently
- father-daughter dances
- good recreation facilities
- passive recreation at Portsmouth Country Club
- free museum passes at library

Group Response – Challenges:

- more adult/senior recreation and other programs
- senior recognition; card games, etc. (we should have these programs)
- communication of town events to town/community
- we should have newsletter or monthly calendar
- make better use of natural resources
- low cost activities needed (ex. bused trips to Boston)
- too much youth focus and lack of other areas
- “adult day care” needed (aging community)
- utilize second floor of new police building
- walking trails needed/wanted
- picnic areas?
- lack of bay access
- need for public boat access (tidal bay problematic)
- necessity for knowledge of town facilities/events
- make use of Internet (possibility of town website bettering)
- lack of communication
- dump’s hours (event posting at dump?)
- sidewalks
- bike lanes

Vision for the Future:

- bused trips (Red Sox, Foxwoods, Boston, NYC, etc)
- senior social chairman, also adults as part of recreation department
- newsletter (online)
 - recreation department
 - museum passes available
 - volunteer opportunities
- centralized event information access (newspaper listing?) encompassing all groups/clubs
- upkeep and unchanging of town green with sidewalks
- bring back Summerfest (or not...)
- senior center (in town center)
- walk to library, church and school
- senior call-in network (rides, needs, etc.)
- sidewalks (along Post Road)
- maintain Greenland as small community
- communication on board on Main Road (Rt. 33)
- call-in information line for town events
- preservation of local, rural, open spaces
- access to golf facilities – possible resident discount
- community band stand, concerts, bands
- group trips
 - ticket discounts

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. elderly activities center
2. all communications of town activities/events
3. adult/senior recreational department (in addition to youth department)
4. upkeep of town center with minimal commercial growth
5. utilizing land resources by adding sidewalk, and updating recreational trails (walking, cross country, etc.)

8. Working Landscape and the Natural Environment

Facilitator: Kath Mullholland

Recorder: Betsy Carrier

Spokesperson: Marion Soltis

Participants: Mary Paul, Judy Alix, Barbara Wilson, Leroy Syphers, Mark Fleming, Russ Coit

Statement of Purpose:

Natural resources and historical assets of a community contribute significantly to the quality of life for residents and play an integral part in defining community character. Streams, rivers, walking trails, working farms, forests, clean air, historic buildings and bridges, wildlife, and open land help determine a community's personality and contribute to the everyday pleasures of community life. A sustainable community recognizes the importance of these assets and takes appropriate measures to assure their continuance.

Statements a community should consider:

- The community has recently inventoried its natural resource base.
- There is broad community interest and participation in protecting key natural resources and historical assets.
- Steps have been taken to provide long term land protection to assure functioning natural resource systems.
- The local economy and population are putting stresses on those natural resource systems.
- There are ways to increase the resilience of the local natural resources systems to allow them to respond to diverse or changing conditions, such as _____.
- Current systems, such as waste management, are handled in a way that preserves the integrity of natural systems in the community without damaging the integrity of natural systems elsewhere.
- Existing businesses are environmentally sound.
- Public water sources are protected.
- Some of these natural resource features are unique or some way important regionally or statewide.
- Natural resources and open space play an important economic role in the community.
- Critical resources are being negatively impacted by competing land uses.
- Steps have been taken to establish regulatory controls and promote voluntary actions to assure the continued availability of natural resources.
- The community has addressed regional natural resource features and issues with surrounding communities.

Group Response – Strengths:

- nice road thru center of town – Post Road – how pretty bandstand – gazebo
- four golf courses
- blessing that we are near the Great Bay – great resource
- potential access to bay from Tidemill Road boat launch
- amount of fields – forests and farm land
- walking trails – nice
- real natural wildlife-don't have to go to zoo
- Weeks Farm
- fields bought by Fish & Game and land stewards (open to public for walking, Sunset Farm/Newington Road)
- community's committed to conservation – recent bond
- the river – fishing, canoeing, recreation and Rolston Park
- pond that abuts syphers trust owned by Dr. Glennon
- mix of young ideas, new ideas and legacy tempered by tradition
- quiet but clear idea of preserving character of town “Strong Sense of History”
- we have somewhere where our kids can go afterschool “Camp Gandalia”
- nice wetlands – both sides of Breakfast Hill

Group Response – Challenges:

- Rt. 33 scares her
- accessibility to bay
- open lands are disappearing fast
- loss of a sense of history
- how to maintain the same values in town
- worried about water quantity, water supply in general – run off from golf course (fertilizer)
- road treatment runoff
- loss of farm lands – loss of barns, commercial growth
- loss of orchards
- population growth in general challenge to balance
- waste management
- balance between nature and homes, commerce – tough choices
- room for cemeteries
- financial resources
- nasty stuff in old factory (proposed mall site)

Vision for the Future:

- town of Greenland to fund Seacoast bike path
- like to be able to walk or bike to work
 - bike path
 - sidewalks
 - walking trails
- like all commercial areas be required to landscape – visual aesthetics
- get the boat launches in
- consider dredging bay
- more public accesses to bay – little beach

- bay boardwalk – walk out to bay to see birds – connecting to Sandy Point and to Pease Wildlife Refuge
- see trees on roadside
- more flowers center of town and everywhere
- Master Plan that stresses everything here (discussed here)
- preserve greenspace by changing zoning to allow cluster housing without increasing density
- continue larger lots to limit the number of houses
- keep Rt. 33 green by enforcing commercial set backs
- more programs recreation, educational, historical to draw people out
- possible to have exit off 95 to truck stop

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. keeping the green in Greenland by developing a Master Plan that emphasizes natural environment protection
2. protect the water
3. preservation and use of Great Bay and Winnicut River
4. preserve and promote community history and identity and encourage participation in community events
5. sound financial planning

9. Economic Vitality

Facilitator: Olivia Saunders

Recorder: John Soltis

Spokesperson: Tom Bates

Participants: Jim Rolston, Maria Ramos, Priscilla Syphers, Carol Smith, Bob Paul, Bill Simpson, Catherine Meinen

Statement of Purpose:

The private, public and non-profit sectors are all important in attracting new investment and in developing new businesses that suit the character of the community and meet its needs. The need to sustain successful workplaces is an important factor to the health of a community. The more often money circulates within the community before leaving, the more the community benefits.

A healthy community includes access to a variety of environmentally sound businesses, industries, and institutions that provide reasonable wages and benefits to workers, engage in family-friendly policies, provide workers with opportunities to develop marketable skills, and contribute to the overall well-being of the community.

Statements a community should consider:

- A variety of businesses, industries, and institutions make up the economic base of the community and the region, such as _____.
- We have a diverse economic base. No one sector or one employer dominates; there is a wide variety of sectors and employers.
- Existing businesses are environmentally sound.
- There are locally available educational opportunities to provide residents with skills that match the needs of local businesses.

- Local government works well with the local businesses to enhance the economic vitality of the community.
- There are business services lacking in the community, such as _____.
- There are many types of jobs available to residents in terms of security, wage levels, skill levels, and benefits, examples _____.
- Community members patronize downtown businesses on a regular basis and value the local businesses.
- Wages allow the majority of the population to enjoy a reasonable lifestyle.
- Local government supports and promotes local businesses.

Group Response – Strengths:

- sustainable good size companies
- non-polluting companies
- significant amount small businesses
- good variety of businesses (travel agency, beauty salons, yoga, car repair, cleaners, framers, dentist, landscaping, service stations, restaurants, golf courses, dairy farm)
- major road through town – accessibility
- good environment for home office
- good communications – internet access
- economic stability – no open office space
- proximity to arts and culture – also major modes of transportation
- good school system/educational opportunity contributes to community self-help, community support very good
- town emergency services (volunteer fire) excellent; police (non-volunteer) also excellent
- safe environment attracts good people and businesses
- town leadership has balanced approach to growth
- rent/lease relatively low – less red tape
- good value and resale of commercial/residential property
- exceptional potential
- citizens care about future
- good state for start-up business and good tax advantage

Group Response – Challenges:

- uncontained/uncontrolled Rt. 33 sprawl
- along with development – traffic flow increase
- cost of land could be barrier to businesses
- community hostility to “certain” businesses
- growth limited zoning issues
- no new drives for commercial businesses on Rt. 33
- town’s Master Plan not well publicized
- state’s Master Plan for Rt. 33
- multiple inputs to Rt. 33 development
- too much beaurocratic red tape
- town not sole input to Rt. 33 development
- more paid services as result of growth
- impact on transfer station

Vision for the Future:

- new bank
- senior center/housing/services/recreation for seniors
- more sidewalks
- better publicity to utilize existing recreation facilities
- professional office development
- aesthetically pleasing businesses
- zoning restrictions for signage
- quaint, cluster shops to encourage participation with walk ability
- job/social opportunities for youth
- better access to Great Bay for recreation (improve existing access)
- if aesthetics are required, tax credits/other incentives
- balance by town: what is desired vs. practical
- reasonable standards for business
- grocery store
- general store(s) walk to
- economic development fits nature of town
- retail center cluster
- teenage recreation opportunities
- family friendly businesses
- free wireless Internet access
- better “cell” phone service

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. rural atmosphere with “world class” communications
2. control “sprawl” of economic development
3. affordable housing opportunities
4. keep tax growth in check
5. towns people support local businesses

10. Growth and Development

Facilitator: Terri Schoppmeyer

Recorder: Kate White

Spokesperson: David Meinen

Participants: Adele Wick, Ann Mayer, Anne Nelson, Mark Weaver, Sharon Hussey-McLaughlin, Jose Ramos

Statement of Purpose:

A community can more effectively manage its growth through the prudent use of local zoning ordinances and planning regulations that guide how land is divided, used, and developed. These tools allow the community to regulate the development of residential areas, commercial districts, and the town center. These are key characteristics in managing growth while maintaining community character.

Another important factor in the development of a healthy community is the diversity of housing. This encompasses availability, affordability, and location, all of which affect the lives of community members, especially the elderly, disabled, and low-income families.

Statements a community should consider:

- The community's zoning and planning regulations are updated regularly and reflect a broad spectrum of residents' vision of the community in 5, 10, and 20 years.
- There is adequate affordable housing for the elderly and disabled.
- There is adequate rental housing in the community.
- Land use regulations and land protection efforts are preserving an adequate amount of open space in the community.
- Current zoning regulations favor protecting the character of key sections of the community over new commercial development.
- There is adequate housing for young families and/or single-parent families.
- Our zoning regulations are designed to counteract sprawl.
- Municipal government works well with landowners to promote land protection and sustainable development while respecting private property rights.
- Residential housing is planned so that negative effects on traffic, public schools, sewer and water systems, and wildlife habitats are minimized.
- Areas of natural beauty and historic importance are well protected by zoning regulations and land protection efforts.
- Our community commits financial resources toward protecting valuable natural resources.

Group Response – Strengths:

- proximity to major highways
- location to natural beauty (bay and river)
- proximity to major cities as well as Maine and Vermont, oceans and ski resorts
- small town appearance
- unused potential resources (undeveloped land)
- school has good reputation ("distinction" – highest category given by State)
- well educated and talented citizens
- planned growth in school system
- easy to enter the community via over 200 programs in library
- reasonable tax rate in respect to the value(s) within the town
- land protection efforts to protect open space
- town recreation programs for children
- zoning plan regularly updated with community involvement
- amount of open space

Group Response – Challenges:

- affordable housing
- traffic – Rt. 33 volume/flow
- transportation – local public transportation
- present zoning permits/encourages business sprawl – "scourge" keep the highway village-like
- commercial architecture matches historic nature of Greenland
- architectural zoning/planning needed
- water and sewage needs to have to be planned for as town grows
- adequate fire protection – sustainability of volunteer department
- quality of public education in high school

- costs of sending students to high school
- lack of control over tuitioning students

Vision for the Future:

- growth control to provide economic and social sustainability and balance to meet needs of all age groups
 - includes affordable housing, business, education, recreation, etc.

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. Route 33 – traffic and flow
2. zoning regulations for planned business and industry growth to prevent business sprawl
3. architectural zoning needed to keep aesthetics of town
4. affordable housing
5. protect and connect open space for recreational and aesthetic value

11. Transportation

Facilitator: Sandy Tague

Recorder: Tom Coleman

Spokesperson: Dough Carter

Participants: Mary Ann Sewall, Chris Riggle, Suzanne Woodland, Brett DeStefano, Tim Fisher, John McDevitt, Carol Sanderson, Evelin Sammel

Statement of Purpose:

A community's strategic location and economic importance bring many people to live, work, and shop here. Roads get most of us where we need and want to go and most people drive their own cars for convenience. However, more vehicles sharing the road results in increased highway maintenance, air pollution, and traffic congestion. Alternatives to automobile travel include pedestrian and bicycle travel, and bus and rail transportation.

Statements our community should consider:

- Our current road system is adequate and meets the needs of the residents and visitors.
- The use of traffic controls (signs, lights, speed limits, police, etc.) is adequate throughout residential and commercial areas.
- It is easy to get around on foot and by bicycle in our community.
- The community encourages car pooling, and helps make it work for people by providing information and accessible parking areas.
- Parking is adequate in the commercial areas.
- Tradeoffs, such as maintenance, pollution, and congestion are considered when widening main roads or building new roads.
- Public transportation would ease some of the traffic problems.
- Residents and visitors would use public transportation if it was available.

Group Response – Strengths:

- managing congestion/diverting/control speeding
- speed reasonable/alternatives
- better commuting option
- peak time flow is good
- proximity to main highways

- responsible planning
- few trucks/heavy traffic (other than Rt. 33)
- good road maintenance
- good geographical location
- state responsive maintenance
- good snow removal
- Planning Board/adequate parking
- availability of “Coast” transit
- safe roads/good engineer
- adequate signage

Group Response – Challenges:

- increasing traffic Routes 1/33
- proximity to tourism
- mall congestion/increased capacity
- truck congestion from truck stop > Rt. 95
- Rt. 33 too busy for bike crossing
- tension between Rt. 33 commercial development and accessibility
- high speed in town center
- town center truck traffic (toll avoidance)
- increasing traffic (volume) Routes 1/33 congestion
- more driveways on Post Road
- manage volume
- Rt. 33/151 are state roads: commercial versus residential
- traffic light needed
- jurisdictional issues – traffic light (Bayside & Rt. 33) federal, state, local
- non-Greenland source traffic (Exeter, Stratham, Portsmouth)
- Tidemill Road “shortcut” truck traffic
- park and ride areas?
- lack of public transit
- bike lane on Portsmouth Avenue
- need bike trails
- Route 33 issue is divisive – widen or not? (underpass)
- senior mobility

Vision for the Future:

- state and federal government harmonization with town
- underpass (es) Rt. 33
- slow down Rt. 33/Post Road traffic
- change speed limits
- aggressive enforcement of speed limits
- pedestrian “oasis”
- a viable commercial – residential pedestrian zone
- solution to Ocean Road & 33, Bayside Road & 33
- close truck stop
- enforce truck stop ordinances
- improve Rt. 151 pedestrian bike access
- community based senior transportation

Key Issues for Now and the Future:

1. traffic management
 - congestion
 - diversion
 - speed
2. Route 33
 - better flow
 - safe pedestrian access
 - safe bike access
3. pedestrian issues
 - central business/”oasis”
 - cultural amenities
 - railroad right of ways (?)
 - responsible development requires pedestrian accommodation
4. regulatory changes
 - limited traffic zones
 - pedestrian friendly
 - municipal & state coordination
5. regional coordination
 - Exeter/Stratham/Newmarket
 - state and federal

Saturday Morning

Everyone reassembled bright and early Saturday morning at Greenland Central Elementary School, where we were greeted by hot coffee and tea and delicious baked goods. There were a few folks there who had not been present Friday evening and they soon felt the enthusiasm of the rest of the group. Similarly, a few members of the Friday night small groups were missing. However, most of the people were stalwarts who had signed on for both days.

The 11 easels from the small groups of the night before were arrayed across the front of the room, each bearing a list of the five key issues for that topic area. Our working day began with short presentations from a member of each of the groups, explaining their group's list. The entire group worked together to evaluate and refine this list. After some discussion, 7 key issues emerged as important to study for the future of Greenland. This list is presented below.

Key Issues

1. Economic Development
2. Planning & Zoning
3. Communication
4. Communication Services/Community Center
5. Open Space/Preservation
6. Infrastructure/Governance
7. Transportation (the group only had 2 members select it, so those 2 members chose to work with other groups)

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND EVALUATION

After a short mid-morning break, participants each chose which of the 7 key issues they would like to discuss further and broke into small groups accordingly. The Transportation group only had 2 members select it, so those 2 members chose to work with other groups. Each topic attracted enough people to form a small working group.

The task of each group was to think about problems that existed in each area and then to brainstorm possible solutions/answers to the issue identified. We did that by thinking out loud for half an hour or so about “problems” and “goals.” Then we suggested solutions, from practical to fanciful to idealistic. The next step was to evaluate the reality of each possible solution/project using the following impact/feasibility grid.

IMPACT:
How much will it matter?

High			
Moderate			
Low			
	High	Moderate	Low

FEASIBILITY: How possible is it in our community?

Using the grid above, we copied each of our proposed solutions onto sticky notes. For each solution, the group decided together what the feasibility and impact of the solution would be. Then we placed the sticky note in the appropriate box.

Based on the grid, each group chose three solutions and wrote them up as proposals on their easel to be presented to the large group. Some groups chose only proposals with high impact/feasibility ratings, while others chose projects from a variety of ratings. Small projects, which were highly feasible, but of low impact, were favored by those who wanted to start small and accomplish something quickly. Long term, difficult projects had advocates who were willing to commit to longer struggles with high rewards. Many of the groups proposed a combination of proposals. Verbatim notes from each of the groups are presented below.

Key Issue #1 Economic Development

Facilitator: Olivia Saunders

Recorder: Ashlee Iber

Spokesperson: Timothy Bassett

Participants: David Meinen, Betty Moylan, Carol DeStefano, Deborah Beck, Robin Bellanfont, Bruce Dearborn, Collen Penacho, John Penacho, Mary Dearborn

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- concern for growth along 33
- opportunity to decide type of economic base we want to see develop
- where we are located – how we work with other towns and see what they are doing
- maintain controlled growth
- ways to finance other projects
- allow right business in and remain anonymous
- employment
- balance between reality/fantasy
- chain of command and to get things done
- balancing financial considerations and quality of life
- continue small businesses
- economic incubator – small businesses can grow
- home based businesses
- some construction of property to be able to assess and tax (businesses)
- big box – pros and cons – consider tax revenue?
- in balance of tax base (so heavily relying on residential instead of commercial)

Possible Solutions:

- money to implement ideas
- imbalance between residential and commercial tax base
- need businesses to fund projects
- traffic, but people don't buy in Greenland
- drug store, grocery store, bank
- opportunity (Pease) people are already driving through town
- benefit from changes (33?) help middle, lower income families to stay
- aesthetically pleasing businesses
- needs met in town
- limited by available land
- laws to comply with town wants (zoning)
- understand how much tax benefit is received from various forms of businesses and development
- we should decide what types of businesses
- consider job opportunities
- consider that new businesses bring more traffic
- small business can feed off of development
- educating about business and traffic
- what's realistic in Greenland?
- rezoning for development
- educate
- talk to other towns
- if it stays this way, only the rich can live here

- positive and negatives of various options (4 lane highway, big box etc.)
- educating the public about 33 and that it is wetland and minimal development in that area is possible – limited abilities to expand
- create town with nice appearance and community area – town center, smaller businesses, and on other end, bigger businesses
- open mindedness – think of positives, look toward future
- tax revenue for future willing to change
- economic development provides us resources for other projects/quality of life
- enable fact based decision making
- address development – cluster housing
- educate about economic survival – staying in town
- encourage small business incubation zoning? Small business centers where businesses can grow
- education/share knowledge
- encourage small business – no space for lots of big box
- rezoning to allow commercial (not residential only)
- educating community of costs and benefits of economic development about options and about developers, impacts, etc.
- rezoning for mixed use
- forums to discuss these issues of economic development – ownership of decisions
- acknowledge emotional impact of economic development

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- address “economic survival of residents” can we afford to stay in Greenland? (selling off property to developers)
- create forums to discuss economic development in town
- educating the public about Rt. 33 – it has limitations due to wetlands – it can never be one big strip mall
- rezoning to allow to commercial development so we can off set residential growth
- acknowledge emotional impact of economic development

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- shared knowledge among towns people – educate each other about issues
- address the pros and cons of cluster housing
- educating the community about current events and pending projects and the options on the table
- understand need to broaden tax base – embrace change
- encourage small business, commercial incubation, look at zoning to make a place inviting to small business
- rezoning for mixed use (also noted for high impact/high feasibility)

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- keep open mind regarding economic development – keep a positive outlook on potential business development
- enable fact based decision making (take emotions out of it)

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility
none

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility
none

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- create town with nice appearance and community area – town center – place for small businesses without leaving “box” development down the road (Target mall)

Low Impact/High Feasibility
none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility
none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility
none

Key Issue # 2 Planning and Zoning

Facilitator: Nate Hazen

Recorder: Kylie Heikkla

Spokesperson: Betsy Carrier

Participants: Dan Kerr, Glenn Bergeron, Jose Ramos, Martha Bates, Anne Nelson, Mark Weaver, Susan Stromgren, Carol Smith

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- more pedestrian friendly downtown area
- to achieve affordable housing
- need for a center of town
- control of architectural part of town and signage
- use of common sense in zoning/planning definitions is lacking
- lack of attention to historic attributes (community center)
- making the populous aware of the different areas in town (zoning) and their implications
- the reactive view for planning
- need for comprehensive review of zoning and planning
- no communication, need for citizens to be involved in planning process
- planning and advocacy of Route 33
- the effect of Route 33 on the partitioning of the town
- making sure the Master Plan remains current and representative of popular opinion
- the capacity of volunteer boards to deal with development and planning (lack of resources)
- the ability of the populous to influence the planning division
- zoning and ordinances need to be more specific

Possible Solutions:

- establish citizen review board and Master Plan review working sessions
- form a Master Plan advisory committee
- establish a section in the newsletter dedicated to planning and zoning

- encourage people to go to planning and zoning meetings
- timely communication of current planning and zoning issues (ex. email)
- education sessions, periodic education of the populous by the planning board/ZBA
- public sessions, website white paper
- review the possibility of the creation of specialized commissions or zoning districts
- get more citizen input
- establish a process to development and influence of Route 33
- affordable housing
- establish conservation subdivision regulations

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- advisory committee for Master Plan
- citizen review board sessions

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- specialized zoning district commission/advisory group
- process to influence Rte. 33 development

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- affordable housing
- citizen participation in meetings

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- website “white paper”
- newsletter – coverage
- timely communication of meeting/issues

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- education sessions by planning board/ZBA

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- conservation sub-division regulations (also noted as Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility)

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Key Issue #3 Communication

Facilitator: Amanda Nelson

Recorder: not noted

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Karen Johnson, Barbara Wilson, Evelin Sammel, Heidi Duncansae, Barbara Coit, Barbara Fleming, Trudie Bergeron, Nancy Bassett, Adele Wick, Brett DeStefano, Ron Cross, Tony Mann, Pat Luvelle, John McDevitt, Maurice Sodini

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- communication brings together all town events, information
- ability to get information on people
- understanding of town limitations (should be in town report)
- town newspaper
- not a single medium (dump advertising, newsletter, etc.)
- diversity (not limited to email)
- information architecture (organization of information)
- ability to choose source of communication
- categories of information
- structure/define town roles
- potential of town leaders

Possible Solutions:

- listing of local town/business services
- reference desk at library
- make use of library (exchange of ideas, activities, centralized)
- group meeting opportunities
- specific places for meeting/communicating
- mission statement of the boards (in town report) what can/can't we do
- possible communication committee(s)
 - subcommittees (physical, web, tech, etc)
 - the committee responsible for solutions
 - not project
- needs to be maintainable
- coffee at school once monthly – information on projects> momentum
- production of newsletter (4 times a year) doesn't need to be weekly/monthly
- emailed newsletter/web as well
- pool resources of church, library, school, etc. (one communal newsletter)
- advertising lowers costs and informs of local businesses
- communication director (possible paid position)
- digital/video meetings (more availability)
- up volunteer participation
- exercise secular caution
- COMMUNITY newsletter
- newsletter upon request/subscription
- donations welcome
- other groups represented in communications
- consolidation of communication
- demographics (awareness)

- when registering something at town hall, have a personal communications form to fill out (on town website too (online))
- demographics sheet (disclaimer included)
- make volunteering available
- multiple medias
- making information available to newer town residents
 - old residents as well

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- make use of library for exchange of ideas, information on activities
- create communications committee with subcommittees, main committee would be responsible for overall solutions
- publish mission statement of all boards in town report/what boards can and can't do
- gather demographics to know who's in town (form at town office and on website) (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)
- listing of town/local businesses (also noted as Moderate Impact/High Feasibility)

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- making information available to newer town residents
- website offering all information to residents

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- produce town newsletter to be printed/mailed or available electronically (also noted as Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility)
- produce newsletter that could be supported by local advertising and/or low-cost subscription (also noted as Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility)
- include all local groups in communications and exercise secular caution (also noted as Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility)

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

none

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- group meeting opportunities

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

- appoint/hire a town communications director

Key Issue #4 Community Services/Community Center

Facilitator: Heather Greenwood

Recorder: Kimberly Greenwood

Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Tom Coleman, Tricia Coleman, Jim Rolston, Chris Riggle, Carol Sanderson, Jane Pinney, Andrea Carlin, Kathy Maddock, Mark Fleming, Bob Paul, Catherine Meinen, Marie Hussey, Margaret Mooers
Jerrian Hartonann, Donna Lee Lewis, Annie Beauchemin, Carolyn White

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

- need communication, synergy between church, school, library, civic groups
- getting senior citizens out to accessible activities
- big enough space-possibly permanent
- need programs that seniors would enjoy
- don't have facts about what is available
- don't know restrictions and rules on existing spaces
- recreation department stops services from 6th grade on
- transportation and accessibility to New Heights not good
- no focal point for community especially for those not involved in school system
 - adult recreation services
- if you are new in town, how do you meet and connect with community
- transportation for elderly
- child care in community

Possible Solutions:

- connect the points that exist, library, parish house and school
- expand recreation committee scope to include all ages
- adult classes at school – computers, photography, etc.
- welcoming committee/town pamphlet, pass information
- slow traffic on Post Road
- newspaper coverage for town events
- bus trips for adults/seniors/all
- needs assessment by the recreation committee
- recreation committee needs to communicate the budget
- leverage existing resources
- community bulletin board, physical and website
- approved list of drivers
- liaisons with community groups
- town newsletter
- sidewalk with lights (nice ones) from school to Parish house to library in back
- identify physical space for senior program
- Greenland Night at bowling alley/events
- tap into Para transit
- use of Bethany Church
- fundraising for community projects
- seek out grants for recreation committee program coordinator

- central parking for elderly
- eliminate corner cut-off in front of church
- sidewalk from church to post office
- make parish house handicapped accessible

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- needs assessment by recreation committee
- leverage existing resources
- identify physical space for senior programs
- community bulletin board (physical, website, information from committee groups)
- newspaper coverage for town events
- liaison with committee groups
- approved list of drivers for anyone's use
- fundraising for community projects

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- seek out grants for recreation committee program coordinator
- sidewalk from school to library and parish house (road in back lighted)
- town newsletter

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- slow traffic on Post Road sign
- central parking for town center sign
- eliminate road (corner cutoff) in front of church
- make parish house handicapped access

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- bus trips for adults/seniors/all (also noted as High Impact/High Feasibility)
- Greenland night at bowling alley/events (also noted as High Impact/High Feasibility)
- use of Bethany Church
- tap into para transit
- adult classes at school – computers, photography, etc.

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- welcoming committee town pamphlet

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- continue sidewalk to town offices, post office

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility
none

Key Issue #5 Preserve Open Space

Facilitator: Dennis Varney

Recorder: Kyle Mooers Spokesperson: not noted

Participants: Marion Soltis, Lisa Mauer, Jean Eno, Judy Alix, Russ Coit, David Bourasso, Sandy Tague, Sharon Hussey McLaughlin, David Bellantone, Scott Moylan, Doug Carter, Dick Pinney, Priscilla Syphers, Leroy Syphers

Possible Solutions:

- development of Tide Mill Road – town landing (including more development)
- raise awareness of ecosystem preservation “Greenland newsletter”
- more rights of way
- Great Bay boardwalk
- create map of land access (current) and future on communication media
- define available land for potential projects
- water fowl protection area contact state for potential town use
- define availability for conservation land for public use
- tie together existing conservation land through right of way easement
- development of sidewalks
- emphasize education of ecosystem through printed media
- preserving wetlands and education on why marshes are important
- preserving town brooks and streams
- getting volunteers to help with project
- strict enforcement and monitoring of resource protection laws

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- raise awareness of ecosystem connectivity (preservation of)
- development of Tide Mill Road/town landing area (including development of other potential right-of-ways)
- create map of current land/bay access as well as future (potential) maps/media
- emphasize education of ecosystem importance through multi-media (printed)
- defined availability of conservation land for public use
- preserving wetlands, increased education on why wetlands are important

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- boardwalks/public access to/around Great Bay area(s)

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- development of sidewalks

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

- greater, stricter enforcement/monitoring of resource protection laws
- potential use of USF&G access area (Shaw Brook/Bayside Road)
- recruiting – getting volunteers to help with projects

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- preserving town brooks and streams

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

- tie together existing conservation land through right-of-way easements

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

None

Key Issue # 6 Infrastructure and Governance

Facilitator: Terri Schoppmeyer

Recorder: Sarah Bates

Spokesperson: R.B. Laurence

Participants: Deb Furino, Rob Dowling, Tim Fisher, Richard Hazaard, Barbie Hazzard, Paul Sanderson, Rich Carlin, Ann Mayer, Bob Cushman, Tom Bates, Jon Wendell, David Phreaher

Clarification of the problem/issue to be addressed:

Governance

- governance most important issue
- make Select Board to 5 members (diversity of ideas)
- taking advantage of gas, water and sewer gas
- town meeting process makes our town special, quick decisions, everyone needs to have a voice, will have input government, be able to challenge budget
- changing processes, publishing agendas ahead of time
- go to public meetings and have chance to vote, ballot type voting
- expense in ballot voting, have certain time for voting, be able to get persons unable to get there
- make Select Board to 5 members, benefit to have more people
- make sure to take best practices of government from other towns
 - coordination with other towns
- more representation and ability to execute change in Portsmouth Schools
- investigate regional provisional services, an area with a fire department
- creation of an ad-hoc committee (to review 5 person select committee)
- more people may help balance work load on 5 person Select Board
- people may be more interested in running for Selectman if more people
- have committee that study and work on projects (engineers> water problems)
- save money by leveraging knowledge within town
- citizen advisory committee
- school board>board of directors, Selectmen>doing all jobs on part-time basis, get the big picture

Infrastructure

- expansion of underground services
- huge water issue, sewage – 100% septic tank
- grey-water treatment panel discussion (costly, need maintenance)
- septic issue drives zoning community
- drives business development, affects more dense housing
- affects the ability for community center
- many old homes septic affects zoning and everything else we do
- year 5 – to expand cell service, growth of communications
 - connect to pie in the sky and to make town wireless
- smart town can control growth through building intellectual communication
- no cell services near Great Bay
- natural gas lines > extend ability environmental issue
- renewable resources > add property tax exemptions
- fire department > maintaining
- develop ways to get people to volunteer
- developing recycling program – could have a measure difference on taxes
 - knowledge of its impact – saving money
- putting how much money we'll save by recycling in newsletter/sign at transfer station

Possible Solutions:

- creation of an ad-hoc committee to review 5 person Select committee
- balancing work load with different committees
- rely on experts
- looking into the whole voting process; voting awareness
- need to revisit current agreement with Portsmouth school system
- need a vote, have a voice in school system
- need people to voice well the issues
- help expedite student issues and community issues
- need a better relationship with the budget
- join with other towns to address the issue
- regional coordination for fire departments
- prepared for anything with accidents
- volunteer firemen hard to get, because of work etc.
- some are allowed to leave if need to for fire department
- more Selectmen – more volunteers
- volunteerism, volunteer fire fighters would get privileges at the work place
- volunteerism – recycling program
 - maybe a financial reward
- holding tanks to think about instead of septic or septic resource and treatment plant
- extend line through Portsmouth

Project Evaluations:

High Impact/High Feasibility

- awareness and study of feasibility of utilities
- balance committee workload

- ad hoc committee 5 board of Selectmen

High Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- improve relationship with budget
- regional fire department coordination
- increase number of volunteers
- get people to voice issues
- expedite student issues
- join other towns to address issue
- rely on experts

High Impact/Low Feasibility

- septage holding tanks or treatment plants
- Portsmouth school agreement revisit
- better voice in school system
- recruitment of volunteer fire personnel (also noted as Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility)

Moderate Impact/High Feasibility

none

Moderate Impact/Moderate Feasibility

- provide privileges for volunteer firefighters
- recycling volunteerism
- voting process/awareness

Moderate Impact/Low Feasibility

none

Low Impact/High Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Moderate Feasibility

none

Low Impact/Low Feasibility

none

PROJECT SELECTION

We returned to the large group to hear from a member of each small group who presented the projects that the group had come up with.

Every participant received six adhesive dots to use to “vote” on the project in each theme they thought were important for Greenland to work on right away. Each voter placed a dot as they wished on one project within each topic so that there would be a priority project for each group to work on first. The projects receiving the most votes were then discussed in small groups in the afternoon. The list of project ideas follows.

#1 Economic Development

1. Create an economic development committee **(67 votes)**
2. Investigate reasonable rezoning options to promote economic development **(8 votes)**
3. Education and communication to inform citizens about the purpose of economic development (i.e. to keep out tax base stable for maintaining quality of life) in the form of open forum and information distribution **(7 votes)**

#2 Planning & Zoning

1. Create opportunities for more citizen input into the planning and zoning (master planning review committee; review the possibility of creating zoning district and commissions; encourage public participation **(40 votes)**
2. Process to influence Rt. 33 development to reflect the Master Plan and citizen input **(34 votes)**
3. Communication with public (website and white paper; newsletter for planning zoning; and timely communication of meetings/issues (email) **(10 votes)**

#3. Communication

1. Community newsletter available in print and online **(68 votes)**
2. Expanded town website for all community components **(15 votes)**
3. Demographic profile and survey **(1 vote)**

#4. Community Services/Community Center

1. Assess and better utilize existing resources **(34 votes)**
2. Developing a center of the community **(32 votes)**
3. Put in place a program and events/services coordinator to foster community focus and current and volunteer groups **(25 votes)**

#5. Open Space Preservation

1. Town’s natural resources (identification, education, communication, awareness, preservation, protection of marsh, waterways, streams, and forests **(58 votes)**
2. Development of Tide Mill Road town landing area **(24 votes)**
3. Determine the feasibility/construct a boardwalk **(0 votes)**

#6. Infrastructure/Governance

1. Select Board committee with five people (town governance/town meeting process **(62 votes)**
2. Volunteerism (recycling, fire department, committees **(17 votes)**

3. Feasibility of utilities (water, septic/gray water, community wi-fi, alternate resources) **(5 votes)**

ACTION GROUPS

After the voting, the groups decided to focus in on the top project from each group. These are listed below.

Create an economic development committee

Create opportunities for more citizen input into the planning and zoning (master planning review committee; review the possibility of creating zoning district and commissions; encourage public participation)

Community newsletter available in print and online

Assess and better utilize existing resources

Town's natural resources (identification, education, communication, awareness, preservation, protection of marsh, waterways, streams, and forests)

Select Board committee with five people (town governance/town meeting process)

CONCLUSION

All action groups agreed to recruit additional members to work with their committees and collect resources needed for follow-up meeting on February 15, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the Greenland Central School to begin to establish goals and objectives to accomplish the individual projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

APPENDIX

Community Profile Participants

Marcia Schallehn	Dennis Greenwood	Carol DeStefano
Ron Gross	Marie Hussey	Donna Lee Lewis
Bruce Dearborn	Cynthia Smith	Rob Dowling
David Bourasso	Katie Fisher	Karen Johnson
Trudie Bergeron	Mary Dearborn	Terry Mayo
Susan Stromgren	Jean Eno	Heidi Duncanson
Deborah Beck	Glenn Bergeron	Paul Eno
Dan Kern	Pat Ferrelli	Martha Bates
David Phreaher	Joanne Stevens	Cheryl Stromski
Paul Sanderson	Barbie Hazzard	Tina Wendell
Gail DeRoche	R.B. Laurence	John Penacho
Betty Moylan	Rachel Willerer	Alison Mann
Coleen Penacho	Edward Stromski	Jan Wendell
Wilfred Hubert	Jean Hubert	Jeff Jousset
Joanne Yeaton	Jerrian Hartmann	Anthony Mann
Scott Moylan	Del Goolsby	Margaret Mooers
Dick Pinney	Rich Carlin	Dick Hazzard
Jo Ann Dionne	John Coombs	Ellen Sargent
Mo Sodini	Cheryl Strong	Jane Pinney
Andrea Carlin	Kathy Maddock	Jane Grant
Mary Paul	Judy Alix	Barbara Wilson
Leroy Syphers	Mark Fleming	Russ Coit
Marion Soltis	Tom Bates	Jim Rolston
Maria Ramos	Priscilla Syphers	Carol Smith
Bob Paul	Bill Simpson	Catherine Meinen
Adele Wick	Ann Mayo	Anne Nelson
Mark Weaver	Sharon Hussey McLaughlin	Jose Ramos
David Meinen	Mary Ann Sewall	Chris Riggle
Suzanne Woodland	Brett DeStefano	Doug Carter
Tim Fisher	John McDevitt	Carol Sanderson
Evelin Sammel	Barbara Coit	Bob Cushman
Judy Alix	Tricia Coleman	Annie Beauchemin
Sheila Kennedy	David Bellantone	Lisa Mauer
Deb Furino	Robin Bellantone	Betsy Carner
Ann Mayer	Sandy Tague	Carolyn White
Nancy Bassett		

Community Profile Facilitators & Recorders

Heather Greenwood
Moe Mayo
Meredith Hartmann
Amanda Nelson
Abby Bassett
Olivia Saunders (UNH student)
Kate White
Timothy Bassett
Doug Cartier

Kimberly Greenwood
Sara Bates
Nate Hazen
Ashlee Iber (UNH student)
Kath Mulholland
John Soltis
Sandy Tague
RB Laurence
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Kyle Mooers
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Kylie Heikkla
Nancy Bassett
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