

Scenic Route 169 Advisory Committee

Meeting #2 Notes- October 28, 2015

University of Connecticut Windham County Extension Center, Brooklyn, CT

Attendance

Sam Alexander, NECCOG

John Filchak, NECCOG

Jason Vincent, Norwich

Jules D'Agostino, Brooklyn

John Baldwin, Canterbury

Lois Bruinooge, The Last Green Valley

Topics

- *Planning Process*
- *Goals*
- *Intrinsic Qualities*

Discussion

Planning Process

- Overview of upcoming meetings and public workshops

Goals

- Presentation of four (draft) goals of the plan

Intrinsic Qualities

- Discussion of why we are inventorying intrinsic qualities: It will lay the framework for establishing a geography of the corridor which will impact branding, signage, tourism, etc.
- The 1995 Plan only identified what was visible from or touching the roadway.
- We would like to take a watershed approach for each of the six intrinsic qualities (scenic, cultural, historic, natural, recreational, archaeological) as opposed to just identifying what is touching the roadway.
- A 36x72" map (next page) was used to plot locations of known sites of intrinsic qualities on and off of the immediate roadway to get a sense of the watershed of each intrinsic quality.
- Mr. Baldwin suggested that the watershed for locations of intrinsic qualities should consider how accessible the location is from Route 169, as opposed to some other route.
- Mr. Baldwin suggested that we address genealogy and cemeteries.

Additional Notes

- Mr. D'Agostino suggested that attendees at the public workshops would like to know the current locations of important intrinsic qualities to get a sense of "what we are trying to protect" and "why they should be interested".
- Mr. D'Agostino asked about quantifying the economic impact of the byway and the money taken in by business, museums, etc.
- Ms. Bruinooge stated that Walktober 2014 drew 60,000 people.
- Mr. Vincent stated that the CT Wine Trail website received 18 Million hits last year.
- Mr. Filchak stated that it may make sense to reach out to UConn for help quantifying the economic impact of the byway.

