New Hampshire Citizen Planner

About NH Citizen Planner
The NH Citizen Planner is a Meeting Management Curriculum for NH municipal land use officials and other community volunteers. It is being developed by members of the NH Citizen Planner Training Collaborative who have partnered to pilot this effort at UNH Manchester in four 1-credit modules. The genesis of this effort is, in part, from the analysis of ten years of Community Profiles, a community visioning process, conducted by UNH Cooperative Extension across the state. Informed Participation and Community Leadership was consistently the theme that dominated discussion by local residents in more than 40 localities in all ten counties. The primary goal is to develop a training curriculum that addresses the core competencies needed to conduct land use planning and effectively engage the public in community visioning and decision making.

Project Activities and Outcomes
The NH Citizen Planner curriculum team has developed four 1-credit modules entitled Effective Meeting Management, Public Participation and Involvement Strategies, Conflict Management in Meetings & Forums, and Advanced Facilitation Techniques. Outreach Scholarship Grant funds supported the participation of seven municipal land use officials in the first two modules as part of the winter/spring 2009 offerings @UNH Manchester. The remaining two modules are being planned for fall, 2009. The Training Collaborative has secured $80,000 funding for Instructional Design Services for development of additional learning/training components from the NH Dept. of Transportation, Community Technical Assistance Program as well as a funding commitment of approximately $40,000 for a Workforce Housing Module from the NH Housing Finance Authority.

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