

## 2010 HEBRON MASTER PLAN VISION STATEMENT

In ten years, Hebron will still be a small, friendly, rural community of predominantly single-family homes, many being used as second or vacation dwellings. The need for affordable housing for all Hebron residents, including the elderly, will have been partially addressed by locating a six-to-ten unit, low-to-moderate income senior housing development within easy walking distance of Hebron Village. Any such development will be constructed to LEED standards, and ideally would be owned and operated by a community not-for-profit organization.

The townspeople will continue to support the Planning Board in following the recommendations of the *Hebron Master Plan*, especially those concerned with suitability of land for development, thus preserving the natural beauty of Hebron's open spaces, scenic vistas, and pristine lake. The Planning Board will work with the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) to coordinate Hebron's planning and zoning documents (*Subdivision Regulations, Site Plan Review, Zoning Ordinance*) with those of other area towns; and will be guided by the principles contained in the NLRA *Watershed Master Plan* to protect the water quality of Newfound Lake. The Conservation Commission will oversee enforcement of the *New Hampshire Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act* and, through education and action, will work to prevent erosion of hillsides and pollution of brooks and streams, the Cockermouth River, Spectacle Pond and Newfound Lake.

Conservation of land will continue to be encouraged. The Town, private citizens and non-profit organizations such as the New Hampshire Audubon Society, the Newfound Lake Region Association, the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests will be encouraged to conserve undeveloped land to preserve wildlife habitat, agricultural use, sustainable forestry, low impact recreation, water resource protection, flood control, and scenic beauty. Camps have long been a staple of the community and will be fostered, as they provide examples of environmentally conscious stewardship.

Historic home sites and structures will be protected. In particular, the Town will obtain easement rights to the Nathaniel Ball and Stephen Ordway cellar holes. The Town will, through its Heritage Commission, collect, catalogue, preserve and display historical documents, photographs and artifacts where they can be viewed by the public, in a Hebron Town building, under the supervision of a volunteer Town Archivist.

The Historic District provides an important emotional and physical common ground for the community, and will continue to do so in the future. To preserve the uniquely beautiful Town Common, any new or remodeled buildings regulated by the Hebron Historic District Commission will be kept in the tradition of old New England. Every effort will be made to keep the historic buildings surrounding the Village Green a vital part of the community. To this end, priority will be given to renovating and repurposing town-owned buildings rather than constructing new buildings. Handicapped accessible spaces for civic, recreational, cultural, and community events will be available for citizens of all ages and interests to gather and interact with one another.

Quality opportunities (academic, physical, and social) for our children will remain paramount. Continued support of the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District and the Newfound Area School District will be encouraged. Active parent and community involvement and communication regarding the development of our children will be maintained. Children's

activities and programs sponsored by The Newfound Audubon Society, Newfound Lake Region Association, and other non-profit organizations will be encouraged.

Enhancements to the Town Library will include upgrading the facility, expanding the hours, and improving access to online computers for community use. A welcoming environment for children with creative activities will be established. Volunteers will be utilized to increase library hours and to coordinate and staff special programs.

The Hebron Memorial Beach Committee will become part of a Park and Recreation Committee whose purpose will be to evaluate needs, budget, plan, and maintain physical exercise and recreational facilities on town owned lands (Hebron Memorial Beach, Town Common, Rogers Property, Town Forest, Bean Sanctuary) to serve the needs of groups and individuals of all ages and physical condition. The Park and Recreation Committee, under the aegis of the Board of Selectmen, will work in collaboration with the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board, Newfound Audubon, and local camps and snowmobile clubs.

The Park and Recreation Committee and the Board of Selectmen will support the goals and activities of the Newfound Pathways Group to provide safe off-road paths and wide roadway shoulders for pedestrian and cyclists for exercise, to access Hebron Village and the Town's recreational facilities and to connect with friends and neighbors.

The Board of Selectmen will work closely with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, and through elected State representatives, to effect improvements to state roads (NH 3A, North Shore Road, West Shore Road and Groton Road) for vehicular and pedestrian safety, with special emphasis on widening and maintaining paved shoulders, improving signage, and controlling vehicular speed.

To sustain Hebron's strong reputation for fiscal responsibility in a worsened economic environment, the Town will consider: a) implementing zero based budgeting; b) using part-time employees wherever possible; c) limiting any increase in local spending and taxes to no more than the rate of inflation (CPI); d) setting a goal of no new long term debt; d) evaluating regionalization of critical services to address volunteer shortage and to improve efficiency.

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The Planning Board wishes to thank the following Vision Group leaders and participants for their valuable contributions to this document and to the future of Hebron:

**Leaders:** Jan Collins, Ron Collins, Sandra Cummings, Bill Nobles, Terry O'Brien, Sheila Oranch, Derry Riddle

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