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**FEAWM
Full Membership Meeting
Thursday, September 28, 2006
Log Cabin Restaurant
Holyoke, MA**

Attending: Jeff Anliker, Karen Regish, Mark Zinan, USDA-NRCS; Dana Marsh, Rene Squiers, Joe McDanald; Westover Air Reserve Base; Sandra Adams, USDA-FSA; Michael Quijano, NPS; Monte Chandler, USDA-APHIS

The meeting opened at 9:50 with introductions and a welcoming of guest speaker Chris Curtis, Principal Planner with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. His presentation was entitled Valley Vision 2- The Smart Growth Plan. This program encourages growth and development while protecting open spaces. His main audience is usually local officials, municipal planners, select boards and mayors to help develop a smart growth plan for each individual community. The commission has had 20 projects this past year and hopes to increase this number in the upcoming years. Chris stated that the Connecticut River Valley Region is one of the most threatened agricultural regions in the United States along with our air quality being one of the worst in the nation. Massachusetts is also the 2nd least affordable state in the nation. He is hoping that working with communities to establish the Smart Growth Strategies that good changes will come to Massachusetts.

Minutes- The minutes from the previous full committee meeting that was held on July 20, 2006 were accepted and approved as written.

Treasurers Report- Jeff reported that the current balance stands at \$12,047.55. This will be reduced once awards banquet fees are paid. A cost comparison was also handed out.

Committee Updates-

Pay and Benefits- Patrick will be testifying on the Berkshire County Locality pay in Washington DC in October. Local congressional are sending a letter in support of the Berkshire locality pay.

Education- The education committee is planning a 2 day session in May. Dates to be determined. The topic will be on retirement.

Activities- The committee is planning a bowling social get together sometime in January. Location will be at the Westover Air Reserve Base.

Other-

Col Dana Marsh reported that she will be transferred in March of 2007 to Dobbins Air Reserve base in Atlanta Georgia.

The next full committee membership meeting will be held on November 16th. Location to be announced.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Recorder: Karen Regish