

# Planning Commissioners' Summer Retreat

## June 5 & 6, 2009

### Ohana Camp, Lake Fairlee, Vermont

#### Hosted by Vermont Law School's Land Use Institute

The Land Use Institute of the Vermont Law School is calling for applications and nominations of individuals to attend a planning commissioners' retreat. This is an opportunity for community leaders volunteering on their town planning commissions to network with cohorts while gaining innovative and inspirational information to bring back to their respective communities.

Keynote speakers include Vermont Secretary of State Deb Markowitz and Vermont Law School land use professors Tim Duane and Sean Nolon. Individuals will be rewarded for their volunteerism and gain advanced training. Space will be limited to 45 attendees.

The retreat will be held at the beautifully refurbished Ohana Camp on Lake Fairlee. The setting is truly a treat and an excellent backdrop for networking and relaxation.

Cost per participant is \$100.  
Scholarships are available!

For more information on scholarships, please contact your RPC or Peg Elmer at [pelmer@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:pelmer@vermontlaw.edu)



#### Retreat Schedule

##### Friday, June 5

3:00 – 4:00 PM	Registration, Check-In and Check out the grounds
4:00 – 6:00	Mixer /Team-building
6:00 – 7:00	Free time and appetizers
7:00 – 7:45	Dinner
7:45 – 8:15	Secretary of State, Deb Markowitz
8:15	Contra dance with Old Sam Peabody Band Delia Clark, caller

##### Saturday, June 6

8:00 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:30	Keynote – Professor Sean Nolon
9:30 – 10:45	Breakout sessions (3 choices)
10:45 – Noon	Breakout sessions (3 choices)
Lunch	
12:30 PM	Keynote – Professor Tim Duane
1:15 - 2:30	Breakout sessions (3 choices)
By 3	Wrap-up and send-off

## Retreat Workshops

### Track A:

A More Energy Efficient Community: Planning and Implementation (Peg Elmer, Paul Markowitz, and Alison Meaders): energy plan, regulatory and non-regulatory implementation, rideshare incentives

Natural Resources Protection and Open Space (Brian Shupe)

Planning for Density (SmartGrowth VT): Smart Growth 101, including design standards, implementation checklist, and how to get smart growth principles adopted

### Track B:

The Developers' Perspective (Bob Miller, REM Development Co., and Bart Frisbee, Sterling Construction): the experience from the other side – what helps/what doesn't; how to get more development happening (incentives) in the centers; small town examples; successful examples and why

Addressing the implications of the JAM Golf Decision (VLS Land Use Institute team and guests): Crafting Defensible Standards in the Town Bylaws

Capital Budgeting and Infrastructure (Juli Beth Hines)

### Track C:

Basics! A Field Guide to Amending and Adopting the Plan and Bylaws (Stephanie Smith, VLCT): including gaining consistency between by-laws and the plan

Coping with Contentious Hearings and Difficult People (Sean Nolon, Vermont Law School)

Civic Engagement (Delia Clark)

## TO APPLY

On a separate piece of paper please provide the following information:

Applicant/Nominee's Name:

Town of Volunteerism:

Telephone:

Home Address:

E-mail:

How many years have you (or the nominee) been on the planning commission?

What planning challenges does your community face?

What do you hope to get out of the retreat?

What is your (or the nominee's) role in your local planning commission?

What types, if any, training have you (or the nominee) had in the past?

**Applications should be received no later than April 3, 2009.**

**Please send applications to [acordero@vermontlaw.edu](mailto:acordero@vermontlaw.edu) or to VLS LUI:**

**Alicia Cordero, 164 Chelsea Street, South Royalton VT 05068. Questions? Call (802) 831-1440.**

Our partners include the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT), Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA), Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA), Smart Growth Vermont, Vermont Planners Association (VPA), the University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies and the Extension Service, the Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce and the Vermont Secretary of State's Office.

This event is supported by a generous contribution from REM Development Co, LLC.

**For event updates, please visit [www.vermontlaw.edu/landuse](http://www.vermontlaw.edu/landuse)**