



**NH OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (OPD)
SPRING 2022 PLANNING & ZONING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 & MAY 7, 2022**

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

PLANNING BOARD TRACK

Tara E. Bamford

Community Planning Consultant

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Tara Bamford has been providing guidance to New Hampshire communities on a wide range of planning topics for over 30 years. Her consulting services focus on assistance to planning boards with master plans, zoning amendments, subdivision and site plan review regulations, application review and administrative procedures. Prior to entering private practice, Tara gained broad experience while working in regional planning, including 10 years as North Country Council's lead planner and prior to that as Executive Director at Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC. Tara has authored numerous innovative model zoning ordinances and played a lead role in several award-winning planning projects, including the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association's (NNECAPA) New Ruralism Initiative, an on-line library of nation-wide case studies on sustainable locally driven solutions to everyday problems. Tara has a B.S. in Natural Resource Studies with a concentration in planning from the University of Massachusetts and an M.S. in Natural Resource Planning from the University of Vermont.

Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., Legal Services Counsel

New Hampshire Municipal Association

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Stephen C. Buckley directs NHMA's legal services program as Legal Services Counsel, with responsibility for providing legal advice to members and overseeing training programs and educational publications for municipal officials. He was in the private practice of law from 1984 to 2014 concentrating in representing municipalities. In his hometown of Bow, Steve was a member of the planning board for 12 years and served as a member of the budget committee, and he currently serves as a member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. He is a past chairman and current member of the executive committee of the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, and he is currently chairman of the New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions. Steve received his B.A. from San Diego State University and his J.D. from UNH School of Law.

**Mark J. Fougere, AICP****Fougere Planning & Development, Inc.**fougereplanning@comcast.net

Mr. Fougere is the President of Fougere Planning & Development, Inc. and is an AICP land use planner with over 29 years of both public and private sector experience. He has an extensive background in project management dealing with a broad array of planning related issues including spearheading rezoning efforts, managing development teams, site and land use planning, fiscal impact analysis, public presentations, expert witness testimony, land use law analysis and consensus building challenges. Mr. Fougere has also served on a municipal planning board and as a selectman. He has operated as a project manager overseeing development projects that required careful design to minimize neighboring impacts. He has managed numerous rewrites and amendments to zoning ordinances and site plan/subdivision regulations. Mr. Fougere presently provides town planning services to five New Hampshire communities.

Benjamin D. Frost, Esq., AICP, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Legal Officer**New Hampshire Housing**bfrost@nhhfa.org

Benjamin Frost, Esq., AICP is the Deputy Executive Director/Chief Legal Officer at New Hampshire Housing, where he manages external relations, legislative initiatives, communications, research, and strategic planning, and provides legal guidance on program implementation. He frequently lectures on issues of affordable and workforce housing, land use law, and ethics. Ben is a founding member of the Governing Council of Housing Action NH, a low-income housing advocacy organization, and serves on the Amicus Curiae Committee of the American Planning Association and the Legislative Committee of the NH Planners Association. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Geography (with a focus on USSR environmental policy) from Colgate University and Syracuse University, respectively and a law degree from Cornell Law School with a concentration in business law and regulation. He lives in Warner, NH, where he serves as Chairman of the planning board. In their spare time, Ben and his wife Christine seek to employ permaculture principles in the design of their woodland paradise.

Ross Moldoff, AICP, Planning Director**Town of Salem, NH**rmoldoff@salemnh.gov

Ross has been the Planning Director for the Town of Salem, New Hampshire (pop. 30,000), for 38 years, where he provides staff support for the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Conservation Commission. He has extensive experience in subdivision and site plan development review and permitting as well as writing land use regulations. He has taught courses for the University of New Hampshire Continuing Education Program and made presentations at conferences and webinars for the New Hampshire Planners Association and American Planning Association. Ross received a bachelor's degree in



Economics and Environmental Studies from Colby College and a master's degree in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts.

**Stephanie N. Verdile, Principal Planner
NH Office of Planning and Development**

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Stephanie is originally from the Capital District region of New York and moved to NH in July of 1999. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Marywood University in Scranton, PA, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Environmental Science with a concentration in Natural Resource Planning and Management from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. She began her NH Municipal Planning career in 2001 with the City of Laconia and then worked in Alton and Gilford until she became the Town Planner for Pembroke from 2012 to 2018. Stephanie has been with the Office of Planning & Development (OPD) since March of 2018 as a Principal Planner where she works in the Municipal Regional Assistance Program providing training and assistance for municipal land use boards, officials, and the public; she administers the Targeted Block Grant (TBG) Program to the Regional Planning Commissions (RPC); she assists in the administration of the Municipal Technical Assistance Grant (MTAG) program with Plan NH and New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. She is the OPD Representative for: The NH DOT Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) and the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) of the CSAC for the Statewide Pedestrian-Bike Plan. She also represents OPD on the Seacoast and Central-Southern Collaborative Economic Development Region (CEDR) committees. She was an elected member of the Alton Planning Board and served as the Municipal Representative for Laconia, Alton, Gilford, and Pembroke on the Transportation Advisory Committees (TAC) for the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) and the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC).

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT TRACK

**Christopher L. Boldt, Esq.
Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, PLLC**

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As a partner in DTC since January 2007, Chris conducts a state-wide practice out of the Firm's Meredith offices for a wide range of property owners, businesses, and municipalities. He enjoys helping clients find solutions to problems as cost-effectively as possible. Chris counsels a wide variety of City and Town Managers/Administrators, Boards of Selectmen, City Councils and Land Use Boards in all parts of NH; and he appears before Land Use boards and Superior Courts across the State as well as before the NH Supreme Court and various State Agencies. Chris handles a wide variety of municipal and taxation matters, conveyancing and title issues, boundary and easement disputes, matters involving the creation and interpretation of conservation easements, land use and development matters, shoreland and wetlands issues, site plan and variance applications, and related mediation, litigation and appeals. Since February 2004, Chris has been an active member of the NHBA Title Standards Subcommittee charged with reviewing



and revising the NH Title Standards under the auspices of the NHBA Board of Governors. Chris is a member of the Belknap and Carroll County Bar Associations and the NH Bar Association. Chris frequently lectures on a variety of municipal, title and land use topics for the Local Government Center, the NH Office of Planning and Development, the NH Bar Association, Primex and the NH Land Surveyors Association. Chris has also served as a Selectman, Planning Board member, Assistant Moderator and Library Trustee in Sandwich and is an active member of St. Andrew's in the Valley Episcopal Church in Tamworth. Chris earned his B.A. from Trinity University in 1984, a Diploma of Anglo-Irish Literature from Trinity College, Dublin in 1985 and his J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1988. Chris became licensed to practice law in Texas in 1988, in New Hampshire in 2002, and in Vermont in 2016.

Stephen C. Buckley, Esq., Legal Services Counsel
New Hampshire Municipal Association

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See biography in Planning Board Track

C. Christine Fillmore, Esq.
Drummond Woodsum

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Christine Fillmore is an attorney with the firm of Drummond Woodsum (recently merged with Gardner Fulton & Waugh). She advises towns, cities, and village districts on a wide variety of issues, including governance, budgeting, and annual meetings, right to know law, road law, land use and enforcement, health and building inspection, contracts and ordinances, local welfare assistance, and environmental issues. In her current position and previously as a staff attorney with the NH Municipal Association, Christine's practice has focused exclusively on representing municipalities and their officials and employees since 2005. She also has a background in corporate transactions and environmental law from her practice with Rath, Young & Pignatelli from 1998-2005, where she was first exposed to municipal law.

Matthew R. Serge, Esq.
Drummond Woodsum

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Attorney Serge is a member of the Municipal Group at Drummond Woodsum and MacMahon in Manchester, advising towns and cities on a wide range of issues including: land use matters, zoning enforcement actions, right to know law, welfare assistance, and general government relations. His experience on behalf of municipalities and other clients includes participation in numerous New Hampshire Supreme Court appeals, individually and as co-counsel. Attorney Serge served as law clerk for the New Hampshire Superior Court and served as law clerk for the Honorable Linda S. Dalianis of the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He graduated summa cum laude from the New England School of Law in 1999, was class valedictorian, and served as Executive Director for the New England Law Review. He has served as a lecturer in the New Hampshire Municipal Association law lecture series in 2009 and 2012, and was a graduate of the NHBA Leadership Academy in 2011.



HOUSING TRACK

**Randall Arendt, FRTPI, ASLA (Honorary), Author of “Rural by Design”
Landscape Planner, Site Designer, Author**

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Randall Arendt is a landscape planner, site designer, author, lecturer. In 2003 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute, and in 2004 was elected as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Among his books are Rural by Design, Conservation Design for Subdivisions, Growing Greener, Crossroads, Hamlet, Village, Town, and Envisioning Better Communities: Seeing More Options, Making Wiser Choices. In 2015 he completed a thorough updating and substantial expansion of Rural by Design for the APA.

**Cordell Johnston, Esq.
Attorney at Law**

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Cordell Johnston is a municipal attorney. From 2004 to 2022 he was Government Affairs Counsel at the New Hampshire Municipal Association, representing the interests of the state's 234 municipalities before the New Hampshire legislature. Before that he worked in a private law firm for 19 years. In his work at NHMA, he was involved in the enactment of almost every new law affecting municipalities. In January 2022 he retired from NHMA, and he now operates a solo law practice limited to representing cities and towns. Cordell lives in Henniker, where he is the town moderator; he previously served as a selectman and as a member and chairman of the planning board. He is a frequent speaker on the Right-to-Know Law, land use law, and other municipal law topics.

**Robert A. Tardif, P.E., Subsurface Systems Bureau Administrator
NH Department of Environmental Services**

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Robert Tardiff graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1991 and began his career with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in 1992. Rob initially worked in Hazardous Waste Compliance (compliance work), then Solid Waste Management (permitting), followed by the Residuals Management Section (permitting). Rob started in the Subsurface Systems Bureau in 2002 as the Construction Section supervisor. In June 2009, Rob took over the duties of Subsurface Systems Bureau Administrator.