

Tamworth Master Plan 2008 - Cook Memorial Library or general library related sections

Section 3 – Implementation No mention of library or Cook Memorial library in this section. General recommendations that may apply:

6. Community Facilities

- A. The Planning Board should approve a Capital Improvement Plan and annually, update it before the budget process begins.
- B. The Capital Improvement Plan Committee should conduct an in-depth review of a different department each year, examining costs, and seeking long term efficiencies to reduce taxes.
- C. Each municipal department should review operations, looking for ways to reduce costs through innovation, efficiencies, increased productivity, automation, economies of scale, synergy, multi-town or regional collaborations, and energy savings.
- D. The School Board should establish a task force to evaluate the efficiency of the school system in Town to determine how it can be made more efficient based on enrollment trends, projected enrollment, related staffing, adequacy of the school facilities to handle anticipated growth, and overall performance of the school system as determined by the accomplishments of the students.
- E. The evaluation should include recommendations to improve efficiency with the objective of reducing costs, while maximizing educational programs.
- F. The Planning Board and Selectmen should review the need to upgrade municipal facilities to accommodate anticipated growth and evaluate the suitability of various properties for those needs.
- G. The Board of Selectmen should acquire property for the purpose of housing municipal services and equipment.
- H. The Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board should explore acquiring a municipally owned source for sand and gravel.
- I. The Board of Selectmen should require all residents using the Town Transfer Station to separate refuse for recycling (RSA 31:39 and RSA 149-M).
- J. The Board of Selectmen should provide for more frequent disposal of hazardous materials.

12. Cultural and Historic Resources

- A. The Planning Board should establish a Heritage Commission or Historic District Commission (RSA 673:1).
- B. The Planning Board should adopt a Historic District(s) (RSA 674:45-50).
- C. The Heritage or Historic District Commission should identify and encourage the recognition of historic structures and sites by listing and publicizing these sites.

6.6 LIBRARIES

There are two libraries in Tamworth:

- The Cook Memorial Library (<http://tamworthlibrary.org>)
- The Chocorua Public Library (<http://www.chocorualibrary.org>)

The Cook Memorial Library is the town library, funded by the town budget. The Chocorua Public Library is a privately funded library, open for public use. Both libraries are part of the

New Hampshire State Library system and are entitled to the State Library's wide variety of resources, including interlibrary loan, databases, and training. For more information, please see the Cultural Resources section of the Master Plan.

8.12 SCENIC/AESTHETIC RESOURCES

"My favorite view" drew an equally diverse range of responses. However, when we separate the view focus (what we're looking at) from the view point (from where we are looking) a few winners appear. Of the 70 respondents, the absolute most favorite thing to look at was Mount Chocorua (25), with Sandwich Range and Tamworth Village tied for a distant second (7). Results were less definitive for where we like to be when taking in the scenery. The fire tower eked out the number one spot with a paltry 6 votes, beating out the two responses, "from my own yard" and "too many to choose from" by one vote. Many answers were unique: "the brook behind the library," "Hemenway (Duck) Pond," "secret," "the path up Page Hill," "Wonalancet Brook Trail," "Pease Hill."

10.3 TOWN RECREATION FACILITIES

Town-Owned Indoor Recreational Facilities

Town House (4,000 sq. ft.): Yoga lessons, contra dances, events and meetings.

Kenneth A. Brett School gymnasium: Basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer.

Cook Memorial Library: Reading, reference, access to the internet (including wireless), art exhibits, books on tape, DVDs, CDs, videos, children's room, story hour, summer reading program, local history and genealogy materials, educational/recreational programs for adults, and meeting rooms. The library is open Tuesday/Wednesday 10 to 8; Friday/Saturday 10 to 4.

11.3 COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

Internet

There were two questions on the community survey concerning the Internet service in Tamworth. In Community Facilities, Resources and Services, question R, 72.8% percent of those responding said that Internet service in Town was 'fair to poor' and 44.6% responded that the Town should spend more money on the Internet. Question F in Economic Development asked, "Should the town support high-speed Internet access throughout Tamworth?" Of those responding to this question, 84.9 % said that the town should support high speed Internet access throughout Tamworth.

High speed (broadband) service is provided by Road Runner from Time Warner, Big Blue from NHEC and Hughes Net Satellite but since service areas are limited, most residents still rely on dial up connections. Both Cook Memorial Library and Chocorua Library offer high speed service and 24 hour wireless signaling. Fairpoint said prior to their merger with

Verizon that if they were successful in their acquisition, that they would increase “overall broadband availability significantly from current levels in the northern New England region within the first 18 months after the completion of the merger.”

In addition, there is a plan in the very beginning stages for an independent group to provide wireless service to the entire town at little or no cost.

Chapter XII. Cultural & Historic Resources

12.1 INTRODUCTION

It is hardly surprising that Tamworth, founded in 1766 – and the area first settled several decades earlier – is rich in historic structures and sites. These have been partially documented in such works as Tamworth Old Home Week (1906) that includes photograph of 56 houses, churches, stores and shops, a few of which no longer exist; Lillian C. McGrew’s *If Walls Could Speak* (1976) and updated in 2005 by Jean Ulitz and Chris Clyne, which lists, with brief histories, some standing old farmhouses in the area; Bryant F. Tolles’ *Summer Cottages in the White Mountains: 1870-1930* (2000) that features 18 architecturally important houses in the Tamworth area, more than in any other comparable area in the region; and *Chocorua Lake Basin: a National Historic District* (2005) by Jim Bowditch, a summary of the successful effort to make the Basin the largest National Historic District in New England, with 50 “contributing,” i.e. older than fifty years, houses, 16 bathhouses, three bridges and three visible remnants – the old Nickerson sawmill on the upper Chocorua River and the once-impressive Engleman house and barn on Fowlers Mill Road – plus, as an aside, eleven cellar holes (there are more).

There are, of course, many more structures and sites of historic interest and importance: houses, churches, cemeteries and scenic views. The 1995 Master Plan, drawing on the 1980 plan, lists 16 scenic views, to which should be added the view of the Sandwich Range now opened at the crest of Fowlers Mill Road; 22 burial plots; 6 churches, one of which, the Catholic Our Lady of Perpetual Help, is now deconsecrated, though still preserves its outer structure intact; and only 12 historic buildings, of which two, the *Cook Memorial Library* and the Enoch Remick House, now part of the Remick Museum, were on the National Register of Historic Places. The Tamworth Historical Society Building, aka the Chocorua Grange, is on the State Register of Historic Places.

12.5 HISTORIC RESOURCES

Historic Buildings & District

The *Cook Memorial Library* was established in 1796 by the Reverend Samuel Hidden, the fourth social library founded in New Hampshire. The current library building was constructed in 1895 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

12.6 CULTURAL RESOURCES

Tamworth is fortunate to have a wealth of cultural resources which can be enjoyed by its residents. Included are *libraries*, historic markers, sites of local importance and numerous clubs, organizations and services which contribute to the quality of life in Tamworth.

Libraries

The Cook Memorial Library is a full-service lending library with over 600 volumes as well as photos, slides, videos and DVDs. Computers, microfilm and microfiche machines are also available.

The Chocorua Public Library is a privately funded library started in 1888 and originally housed in Runnells Hall. It moved to a new brick building in 1969.

Community Organizations

Friends of the Cook Memorial Library promotes library resources and services, fosters relations between the library and the community, and publicizes the functions and needs of the library.

Chapter 16

Community Survey

Results

6. B. 1. e. Transportation – Traffic turning and entering
 - parking in front of library & country store
6. B. 3. Transportation - Are there areas of Tamworth where parking is inadequate?
 - Library School drop-off/pick-up at Brett horrible!!
 - Center of town near library
 - Old Village Store, Tamworth Village, needs sidewalk along proch to allow pedestrians safe passage from Library to store to store. Present situation is dangerous
 - Library
 - The village. It is always a treat to back out in front of the Library, grocery store, Town House, Town Hall.
6. B. 4. Are there areas of Tamworth where handicapped parking is inadequate?
 - Cook Library
 - In front of the library.
7. Historic Preservation - Are there historic sites in Tamworth that should be protected? If Yes, please list below.
 - Library
9. A. Your vision of Tamworth - What do you consider the ONE best thing about living/owning property in Tamworth?
 - Nice town and people; we have a real community and heart of town and the school and library are accessible to everyone
 - Walking to PO and Village stores & library.
 - The beauty and the pristine quality of the area plus the intimate quality of life in such a small town. But I also love the Barnstormers and the two stores and our lovely little government and library.
 - I feel we have strong community & friends; it is beautiful rural country town; it has great library
 - I don't think "one" best thing is a good thing to ask. We enjoy hiking here, walking, the library, ability to have a garden. Quiet.

- The pleasure of an historic and rural town center with amenities including the library, eating places, churches, meeting rooms, the theater, shops, places to encounter friends and socialize.
9. B. What ONE change do you think would improve Tamworth the most?
- Lower property taxes; a park behind the cook library and a park at the empty lot in chocorua
9. C. Please describe YOUR vision of what Tamworth should be like twenty years from now.
- Environmentally sound, still surrounded by fields & forested mountains, containing light/lighter industry & "cottage" industries & onomic activity, food & energy production & storage, school, library, art, & theater, & a continued emphasis on QUIET natural beauty. We could become a teaching center for modern-day eco-tourists/student practitioners.
9. D. Do you have any additional comments?
- Tamworth is too small a town to support 2 libraries. The Chocorua library should be turned into a historical society building/combo senior center.

| N | Please rate these services | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|------|------------|------|------------|-----------------|
| Libraries | Excellent | Very Good | Good | Fair | Poor | No Opinion | Total responses |
| Number | 177 | 134 | 85 | 10 | 4 | 46 | 456 |
| % of resp | 38.8 | 29.4 | 18.6 | 2.2 | 0.9 | 10.1 | 100.0 |
| % of all | 34.9 | 26.4 | 16.8 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 9.1 | 89.9 |
| | Town spending for this service should be | | | | | | |
| | More | Same | Less | No Opinion | | | Total Responses |
| Number | 65 | 166 | 44 | 35 | | | 310 |
| % of resp | 21.0 | 53.5 | 14.2 | 11.3 | | | 100.0 |
| % of all | 12.8 | 32.7 | 8.7 | 6.9 | | | 61.1 |