

**AGENDA**  
(credits pending)

**DAY ONE: Thursday, October 18**

- 11:00 – 12:30 **OPTIONAL walking tour** of Keene. Participants will then have lunch in town on their own
- 1:15 -2:00 Doors open. Registration and networking
- 2:00 Welcome and introductions
- 2:15 – 3:30 **Growing a local economy: how to strengthen independent businesses and build communities that are more resilient, prosperous, entrepreneurial and connected.** An interview with Stacey Mitchell, Institute for Local Self Reliance. Interviewer: Matt Mowry, Editor, *Business NH Magazine*.



*A growing body of academic research is finding that locally owned businesses matter: they create communities that are more resilient, prosperous, entrepreneurial, and connected. Yet today there are many forces working against local economies, from the growing reach of Amazon, to the financial priorities of Wall Street, to corporate mergers that shutter local production.*

*Stacy Mitchell will kick off our gathering by presenting a wide range of policies and models that communities can use to grow local businesses and build stronger local economies. She will talk about how to create the right kind of built environment for entrepreneurs, how to reorient economic development programs, and how to shift more capital to Main Street. She will illustrate her discussion with examples from cities and towns across the country. Along the way, she will share research that puts numbers to the benefits of local ownership and shows how a locally focused economic development strategy can be more effective.*

- 3:30 – 3:45 **BREAK**
- 3:45 – 5:00 **The Monadnock Story\***
- Rhett Lamb, Planner for City of Keene
  - Medard Kopczynski. Director of Economic Development Initiatives and Special Projects for the City of Keene
  - Mary Ann Kristiansen, Hannah Grimes Center
  - Jack Dugan, Monadnock Economic Development Corporation
  - Jennifer Risley, Co-Founder of Monadnock Buy Local and Marketing Manager at Monadnock Food Co-op
- 5:00 – 6:00 Reception (cash bar, appetizers)
- 6:00 Optional dinner (together but on our own, location tbd) and socializing in town

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**DAY TWO: Friday, October 19**

- 8:00 Registration and continental breakfast  
 8:30 Welcome  
 8:45 – 10:30 Hawk talks related to **growing a local economy**:
- Laurel Adams, Regional Economic Development Center of Southern New Hampshire
  - Nancy Pearson, Center for Women and Enterprise
  - Carol Miller, Director of Broadband Technology for NH BEA, Division of Economic Development
  - Sarah Wrightsman, Director of the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast

10:30 -10:45 BREAK



10:45 – noon **General stores and community cafes:** an interview with Paul Bruhn, Preservation Trust of VT (Interviewer not yet confirmed)

*Paul Bruhn has studied general stores for decades. In this session, he will share his wisdom about the critical importance of these communitygathering places, how communities have worked to provide these essential services, and lessons learned in Vermont.*

12 – 1 lunch and networking

1 – 2:30 **What I learned from 1000 towns.** Dar Williams  
 : *Dar Williams is a singer/songwriter who performs mostly in small towns across the country. Her observations of what makes some towns flourish have been compiled a book, What I Found in a Thousand Towns. In this session, Ms. Williams will share some insights about “the potential of America’s lively and resilient communities” ...*



2:30 Wrap up  
 3:00 Depart

*\*Introducing Plan NH Hawk Talks, named for Roger Hawk, professional planner and strong Plan NH supporter and contributor, who passed away in early 2016.*

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