

26 June 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Plan NH announces 2019 Merit Award and Scholarship/Fellowship recipients

At its annual Awards evening, held this year on June 20 at the Capital Commons building in Concord, Plan NH revealed this year's Merit Award projects. The projects were selected from a field of nominations by a jury of diverse professionals within the planning, design and development industries.

The Merit Awards program recognizes outstanding building projects that embody Smart Growth principles, Social Responsibility and/or outstanding cooperation or collaboration. These projects also demonstrate how what we build, where we build and how can have an influence on the health and vibrancy of a community.

Gilford Village Knolls III

Owner: Lakes Region Community Developers

Key players:

- **Gilford Village Knolls Trustees**
- **Stewart Associates Architects**
- **Steven J. Smith Associates**
- **Martini Northern**
- **Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green**
- **Stewart Property Management**
- **DEAP Energy**



This is the third building in a multi-unit apartment development for adults age 62 and older. This section has 24 units, all one-bedroom, and each rent-restricted at price points residents can afford.

What made this project stand out was not only that the site is within easy walking distance to the town's amenities (vs many developments for older adults that are isolating) but that the building itself is the first passive-house certified multi-family building in the state. And because it is identical to one built earlier, cost savings can be easily tracked.

Jury comments:

- As noted above, they liked that the residents are not segregated and isolated from the rest of the community
- It was great that the numbers worked re affordability
- They the passive house certification

Concord City-Wide Community Center

Owner: City of Concord

Key Players:

- **Milestone Engineering and Construction**
- **The HL Turner Group**



Just off Loudon Road is the site of the former Dame School, which was partly demolished and other parts re-purposed to create a wonderful community center for people of all ages.

Indoor courts and outdoor fields are used for games, and there is an auditorium for all kinds of uses, and old classrooms are used for different kinds of learning today. In addition, the building is on ehome to what were once myriad Concord Park and Rec offices and programs.

Jury comments:

- great re-use of old school
- Re-use of fields
- Near “new American” community
- Location on a major bus line

Downtown Concord Complete Streets

Owner: City of Concord

Key Players:

- **Severino Trucking**
- **McFarland-Johnson**
- **Louis Karno & Company**



The reconstruction of Concord’s North and South Main Streets has transformed the character and appeal of downtown. Sidewalks now 45% of street space, and, counter-intuitively, parking was reduced from 31% to 16% of the roadway. In addition, space for travel lanes was reduced from 46% 27% of the overall design, while space for bicycles was increased from 0 to 12%. At times, pedestrian counts are more than double what they were before the re-build. And there are virtually no empty store-fronts. It’s a vibrant “outdoor room” in front of New Hampshire’s Capitol building.

Jury comments:

- This was a transformative project for the City’s core, a catalyst to redefine downtown

- The project has led to tremendous economic revitalization and a renewed sense of pride in how Concord looks and feels
- The buried power lines are a great asset.
- The great energy that went into the design and building of the new configuration is still being felt as people walk, shop and socialize in their own downtown.

Bradley Commons, Dover

Owner: The Housing Partnership

Key Players:

- **Lassel Architects**
- **Pine Brook Construction**
- **Ambit Engineering**
- **JSN Associates**
- **Petersen Engineering**
- **Woodburn and Associates, Landscape Architects**



This project is a 61,000 sf mixed-use building where a Catholic church once stood. Rather than setting it back from the road, the designers put it closer to the sidewalk, with parking behind. As a result, it is part of the fabric of downtown Dover, and its location is within easy walking distance to amenities. In addition, the location is home to not only 39 one-, two-, or three-bedroom units at lower price points, it also provides space for a Head Start Program. and commercial retail spaces on the first floor. Deliberately-planned design elements contribute to an overall healthy building (and thus healthier inhabitants)

Jury Comments:

- The architecture shows spirit of Dover
- With parking in rear, the street becomes a “room”
- They like the non-profit aspects of the available spaces,
- And like the lower price points for the residences.

SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Also at its annual Awards event on June 20, Plan NH announced this year's "class" of 2019, recognizing students who call New Hampshire home and are studying a field related to Plan NH's mission of "fostering excellence in planning, design, and development of New Hampshire's built environment." Awards range from \$800 to \$5000.

In partnership with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Plan NH awarded a total of over \$20,000 to the following students:

- Tim Allen, Chocorua, studying for a Masters in Architecture at Roger Williams
- Maddie Dilonno, Concord, studying Community and Environmental Planning at UNH
- Jordan Peck, Concord, studying architecture at Roger Williams
- Megan Pelissier, Jaffrey, studying Architecture at Norwich University
- Hannah Perry, Derry, studying Architecture at Wentworth Institute of Technology
- Sheldon Rogers, New Durham, studying Architecture at Norwich University
- Logan Stevens, Concord, studying Civil Engineering at UNH
- Katiemae White, Farmington, studying for a Masters in Resilient and Sustainable Communities at Prescott College

Plan NH is an independent organization with a mission to "foster excellence in planning, design and development of New Hampshire's built environment." Through workshops, newsletters and more, Plan NH raises awareness of the impact of the built environment and community design on the health and vibrancy of towns and neighborhoods. The organization shares information about ideas and trends and techniques with planning, design and building professionals, as well as with Granite State communities themselves. For more information about Plan NH and its programs, go to www.plannh.org.

Robin H. LeBlanc, Executive Director, Plan NH
21 Daniel Street, 2nd floor, c/o GPI
Portsmouth NH 03801
R_leblanc@plannh.org

603-452-PLAN (452-7526)