



Submitted by: Mary Macdonald, mary@genuinelocal.org

Company/Organization: Genuine Local

Type of organization: Business

Number of Employees: 4

Category: Community

Challenge or Opportunity: There is a large parcel of land in our area that features prime agricultural land that has been under-utilized for several years. The history of this property is also part of the fabric of NH's history - it is the former Laconia State School property in Laconia. Various community groups have tried for years to bring it back to life.

Approach or Solution: Genuine Local was asked to support the Lakes Region Food Network's request to Governor Sununu's planning commission to add agriculture to the Master Planning efforts underway in 2018. GL put together a proposal for an Ag-Based Maker Space and submitted it to the Commission last fall. This was a comprehensive solution, with a path to success.

Impact: The Commission has endorsed the GL concept and added it to the final Master Plan that will be submitted to the NH Legislature this fall. Genuine Local has a big vision - to be THE entrepreneurial food hub where food is grown, processed, aggregated, distributed, sold and served, and where associated skills are taught, learned and practiced.