

Concerned Citizens for Regional Impact

Our Mission:

To assure that all citizens who anticipate an impact from the projected installation of the North American Training Lodge facility in Groton, NH are informed and have an opportunity to participate in decisions regarding this project.

Latest Events

Have you been invited?

Concerned Citizens has been informed from many members and other citizens that William Gifford, President of North American Training Lodge, is holding a PRIVATE Meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 2006, 7PM, at the Common Man in Plymouth, to discuss his company's proposal for a Military-Like Weapons Training Facility in Groton. Calls to the Common Man do verify that Mr. Gifford does have a room reserved for that evening for a private gathering of 20 to 25 people. We have been told that he has even hired the Plymouth Police.

None of Concerned Citizens' Board members or visible volunteers has been invited, but are certainly getting calls from Groton and other local residents. They are angry that this company would have a PRIVATE meeting when they have repeatedly turned down the Groton Selectmen's requests for a PUBLIC presentation. Have you been invited? Do you know why?

Why prevent the public from having an opportunity to hear what NATL's plans are and ask some questions? The Public has been denied its right to hear and be heard on an issue that may impact their property. This is a private meeting held by Mr. Gifford and is by invitation only. The general public has not been invited. What do you think? Let us know in the "Speak Out" section of the CCFRI web site at <http://www.ccfri.org>.

The following notice was posted on the Groton, New Hampshire, web site as of Monday, February 20, 2006. The Town Of Groton's web site is at <http://town-of-groton.com/index.html>

North American Training Lodge Inc.

The board of selectmen were adamant about hosting a second meeting with North American Training in a facility large enough to comfortably fit all interested parties. Unfortunately, North American Training felt that the presentation should be for Groton residents only and proposed hosting an informational meeting with two sessions to be held in the Town of Groton. As we all know the town does not have a facility large enough to accommodate everyone and the selectmen stood by their beliefs that anyone and everyone who showed interest in the presentation should be allowed to attend. Since an agreement could not be made there will not be another informational meeting with North American Training Lodge.

The letter below from the Chairman of Dorchester Board of Selectmen sent to Mr. Gifford of NATL sums up very well what people are thinking.

Dear Mr. Gifford:

The Dorchester Board of Selectmen is fully unanimous in its opinion that NATL should be scheduling a public forum for all Groton citizens, and citizens of abutting and nearby communities. To not do so and hold a private convocation over such a delicate issue is in direct contradiction to the American Democratic process. The proposal of a military training center is an matter of grave concern and to shun public input and opinion can only "fan the fires" of ill will and public discontent not only of citizens but its concerned public officials as well.

Respectfully,
Albert J. Franz, Chairman, Dorchester Board of Selectmen