

**Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes April 24, 2014
Smyth Public Library, Candia 7:00 p.m.**

APPROVED MAY 22, 2014

members present: Emily Schmalzer (Brentwood), Al Hall, Dick Snow (Candia), Harriet Cady (in at 8:00), Anne Lightbody, Ann Welsh (Durham), Joe Foley (Epping), Pat deBeer, Fred Lindahl (Fremont), Sharon Meeker, Preston Samuel (Lee), Dawn Genes (associate member), Suzanne Petersen (staff)

guest: Jim MacCartney (National Park Service)

absent: Dick Lord (excused), Rachel Stevens, Jenn Rowden, Todd Piskovitz (excused), Kitty Miller (excused), Mike Russo (excused), Michelle Daley (excused), Peter Wellenberger (excused), Ted Janusz (excused), Kathleen Hoelzel

Meeting began at 7:00.

Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2014: Ann Welsh made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Preston Samuel seconded. Minutes were approved with 7 yes votes and 2 abstentions.

workgroup updates:

history: Dick Lord is making progress on panel 4 at the Wiswall kiosk in Durham.

outreach:

- A guided Junior Rangers pilot program is scheduled for July and August in Epping. The self-directed Junior Rangers program is available on-line. Patches for participants have arrived.
- May 10 migratory fish event has been planned in partnership with NH Fish and Game to be held at McCallen Dam 10:00-noon.
- Members were invited to join a Lamprey River watershed tour in the fall if there is enough interest. Four members indicated that they would like to participate. The outreach group will make arrangements for a van and driver.

land protection:

- Easements funded by LRAC Wild & Scenic are being reviewed for opportunities with public access for walking and paddling.
- A proposal to recognize landowners along the river who take good care of their land is being considered. A suggestion was offered to use the Farms of Distinction model as guidance.

water data: The group has reorganized lots of data on-line but needs to meet to refine goals and discuss best methods.

project review:

- New England Dragway Phase III in Epping was reviewed. Comments focused on deficient engineering that would encourage soil disturbance and result in inadequate stormwater management.
- A proposal to add drive-in movie screens at Liquid Planet in Candia was discussed. No permit application has been filed with DES yet. The workgroup decided to wait until a permit application is received before commenting.
- Maple Ridge subdivision in Nottingham was reviewed.
- A second permit application was recently received for Maple Ridge. It will be discussed at the May 1 meeting at the Lee Safety Complex at 7 p.m..
- Review of RSA 483 led to a discussion about reporting by towns of “actions” that might affect resource values of the designated rivers. Clarification from Jacquie Colburn is needed. A draft letter was prepared and shared with all committee members.
- A proposal by Raymond to take water from the Lamprey for public water supply was mentioned and passed around for quick review. A suggestion was made to invite Wayne Ives to speak about the Instream Flow Management Plan in light of this development.

town updates: Not reviewed.

new business:

- The SWA-LRAC-LRWA Stormwater Standards and Green Infrastructure Workshop will be held on May 13 from 4 to 6 at the Epping Town Hall.
- The newly-formed Stewardship Network-New England has hired an intern for the summer. Environmental partners are being asked to submit proposals for 1-3 week projects for the intern to work on.
- DES is hosting listening sessions to discuss changes to the wetlands program.
- Dick Snow will be contacting Jacquie Colburn about surplus properties that might be used as a meeting/office space for LRAC, LRWA, SWA, and other local groups.
- Dick Snow, as new chair, shared his vision and thoughts for the LRAC.
 - The vision must define goals which will lead to measurable objectives and action items. The end results should be analyzed for effectiveness and future work.
 - LRAC is a “body corporate”, created by the legislature but entirely separate from the state. The key responsibility is to advise towns, DES, and water users about issues concerning the designated rivers. LRAC has no authority; its power comes when members can clearly state how LRAC can help those entities it advises.

- Project review is an important and powerful task of the committee. Dick shared his opinion that the full committee should be actively engaged in reviews. The full committee should be filtering and reviewing all reported “actions” by towns as well as DES permit applications. Comment letters submitted to DES should be shared with all members and all reviews should be tracked. Significant discussion ensued about the project review process. A database for LRAC reviews does exist, but it needs updating and tweaking. Dick was reminded that early administrative work in the expanded committee defined how project review would occur and by whom. All members who would like to join project review sessions are welcome to do so, but project reviews should not be conducted during regular meetings. Project review sessions take place the first Thursday of every month at the Lee Safety Complex.
- Membership in the committee is related to civic interests defined in RSA 483: municipal, business, riparian landowner, agriculture, natural resources, etc. All members were asked to review DES nominating paperwork and report the interest that they represent to Suzanne Petersen.
- The exact extent of the watershed is unclear. The exact extent of protection covered by NHRMPP is unclear. Are designated river corridors protected only or are little tributaries and the whole watershed also included?
- How can the whole watershed get into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System? What process enabled the lower four towns to get in?
- Subgroups of LRAC are currently called subcommittees. To ensure compliance with RSA 91-A, these groups should be called workgroups and each should include highlights to be discussed on agendas. The Wild and Scenic group is a correctly called a subcommittee and shall continue to announce meetings, post agendas, record minutes, and submit both draft and approved minutes to the four lower towns.
- Dick asked if the The Lamprey River Curriculum is linked to Common Core standards. It is linked to NH Learning Objectives in Science and Social Studies. The Common Core is for math and English language arts only.
- Opportunities for more extensive outreach exist: Northwood has an active watershed outreach group, Northwood Lake Watershed Association (?), that could be a valuable partner. The D118 power line project through Candia drew significant public interest. LRAC could have used the project to inform residents about LRAC and river protection.

Dick was reminded that the action items above should not replace priorities voted on by the committee in February: gathering and mapping of existing water quality

data for public use, stormwater workshop with SWA and LRAC, and partnerships with municipalities to do demonstration projects.

next meeting: Thursday, May 22, 2014 at the Smyth Public Library in Candia.

upcoming events:

- May 1, project review session, 7:00 at Lee Safety Complex
 - Maple Ridge subdivision, Nottingham
 - NHDOT Project - Candia-Epping 26606 (?)
 - letter to Jacquie Colburn re: defining “actions” per RSA 483
- May 10, migratory fish with NH Fish and Game at McCallen Dam, 10-noon
- May 13, Stormwater Standards and Green Infrastructure Workshop, 4-6 at Epping Town Hall
- May 13, Wild and Scenic Subcommittee meeting, 7:00 at Lee Safety Complex
- May 21, outreach, history, and recreation workgroup session, 203 Wadleigh Falls Road, Lee, time TBD.

adjournment: Al Hall made a motion to adjourn. Preston Samuel seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00.