

**Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes June 26, 2014
Smyth Public Library, Candia 7:00 p.m.**

APPROVED JULY 24, 2014

members present: Al Hall, Dick Snow (Candia), Anne Lightbody, Dick Lord, Ann Welsh (Durham), Todd Piskovitz (Exeter), Pat deBeer, Fred Lindahl (Fremont), Sharon Meeker, Preston Samuel (Lee), Michelle Daley (Newmarket), Suzanne Petersen (staff)

absent: Emily Schmalzer (excused) , Harriet Cady (excused), Joe Foley, Jenn Rowden (excused), Kitty Miller (excused), Mike Russo, Peter Wellenberger (excused), Ted Janusz , Kathleen Hoelzel , Carolyn Matthews (excused)

Meeting began at 7:00.

summary of motions:

Michelle Daley made a motion to send all projects to the project review workgroup for initial assessment and review if appropriate. When needed, the workgroup will bring big projects to the attention of the full committee. For projects that do not require a permit from DES, committee representatives may bring individual projects to the attention of the full committee for initial assessment and referral to the project review workgroup. Sharon Meeker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Ann Welsh made a motion for the committee to vote for amendments to the bylaws at the July meeting as follows:

Article II, Section B-2:

Advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the National Park Service (NPS), on matters pertaining to the segment of the Lamprey designated as a National Wild and Scenic River, federal actions potentially affecting the Rivers, and implementation of the Lamprey River Management Plan—2007 Update current management plan.

Article II, Section B-4:

Assist in the implementation of the Lamprey River Management Plan—2007 Update current management plan developed pursuant to RSA 483:10 adopted by the Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee ~~on 01-10-1995 and updated 11-2007. Such implementation shall include revisions and amendments~~The Committee may revise and amend the management plan as they deem appropriate and as consistent with the enabling legislation.

Dick Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Lightbody made a motion to re-elect Dawn Genes for a year term as an associate member of the committee. Dick Lord seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

approval of minutes from May 22, 2014:

Al Hall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dick Lord seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

outreach, recreation, history workgroup update:

- Mast Way School in Lee brought 80 4th graders to Mary Blair Park as part of the Lamprey River Curriculum field trip. Sharon Meeker and Suzanne Petersen were on hand to offer extra activities for the mill history walk and aquatic invertebrates. Training for other teachers will be planned to get at least one additional school on board.
- “Hike It” history and nature walk at Wiswall Falls in Durham took place June 22. Bike It and Like It events will take place in July and August.
- Events for fall include a guided Big Tree walk with Kevin Martin and a van tour around the watershed.
- Lee Conservation Commission and Lee Selectmen have approved the sign for the public canoe access. Details about sign manufacture and sign posts are being discussed.
- The joint LRWA-LRAC working group investigating wood in the river met and shared photos of obstructed sites. The group will visit one site on June 30 and assess it using Jim MacCartney’s draft analysis criteria.
- The John Hatch panel for Wiswall Falls kiosk in Durham is nearly complete and will be sent for printing soon.

water issues workgroup update: Data analysis continues. Next meeting will be planned soon.

land protection workgroup update:

- Two projects are in the works in the Wild and Scenic section.
- Dick Snow reported that Candia Cons. Comm. is working on securing development rights on a 41 acre parcel near Bear Brook. They are looking for a land trust to hold the easement.

project review workgroup update:

- Wednesday Hill Road culvert replacement, Lee
 - Culvert is perched and undersized.
 - DES is requesting a rock weir. Workgroup advised that it should be designed as a ramp, not a staircase, to allow passage of river herring.
 - Disturbed soils should be planted with native plants to reduce the likelihood of colonization by invasive weeds.
- Thompson Mill Road culvert replacement, Lee

- Project entails replacing 30" diameter metal pipe with reinforced concrete pipe. Anti-beaver device and guardrails will also be replaced.
- Disturbed soils should be planted with native plants to reduce the likelihood of colonization by invasive weeds.
- Woodman Brook high turbidity problem, Durham
 - Turbidity in this first order stream has been noted for 3-5 years and the problem is getting worse. The problem was formerly confined to the brook, but now it is also clouding the Lamprey. DES tested the water a few years ago and turbidity was off the scale. DES has not done any follow-up.
 - A site walk revealed the source of the turbidity to be a spring in a gully in Thompson Field. The spring seems to be travelling through a layer of glaciomarine clay that lies under the field.
 - Plan: Bring the issue to the Wild and Scenic Subcommittee and apprise the Durham Conservation Commission.
 - What is the eroded clay doing to the biota of the brook and the Lamprey?
 - What hydrologic and geologic forces are causing the erosion of clay?

Depot Road Culvert replacement, Candia

Dick Snow presented this project to the full committee. This culvert serves a tributary to the North Branch River. Discussion revealed that this is outside the quarter mile corridor.

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Wild and Scenic subcommittee update:

- Draft minutes from June 10 were shared with all members. Transparency in the federal funding process was a key topic.
- Sharon Meeker has prepared a quick guidance paper on how nomination to the Wild and Scenic program works. She will send to all.

town issues and updates:

- Candia
 - The town has obtained approval from DES to retain waste materials on site at the former incinerator pending submission of an acceptable plan.

- Sand and gravel site across from Thibeault is scheduled for review by the Town of Raymond for an “activity” on the site.
- Newmarket-Durham
 - Surveyors were spotted on Route 108. Construction to widen the roadway is expected to begin this September.
- Newmarket
 - Full report on the McCallen Dam was presented to the public on June 23. Key findings conclude that removal of the dam will have no effect on flooding and a negative impact on wetlands in Durham. No one is pushing for dam removal or other action at this time. The presenters explicitly noted that the report says nothing about armoring the Durham Book Exchange. All reports on the dam can be accessed at <http://www.newmarketnh.gov/macallen-dam-study-committee>.
- Durham
 - The siltation problem at Woodman Brook has abated for the time being. All studies have been put on hold.

events:

- Eighty students participated in Lamprey River Curriculum activities plus a history walk and aquatic invertebrate talk June 5 and 6 at Mary Blair Park in Epping.
- LRWA’s Raymond Regatta was held on June 7. Five boats competed and a good time was had by all.
- Hike It history and fish ladder tour took place on June 22 at Wiswall Falls, Durham. A small but enthusiastic group attended.
- Newmarket Stormwater Workshop was held June 25. Regional approach was suggested by several speakers. LRAC was listed as a good resource for outreach efforts.
- The next Wild and Scenic Subcommittee meeting will be July 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lee Safety Complex. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- The Bike It tour in Newfields will take place in July. Date to be determined.

bylaws change proposal:

The bylaws as currently written make references to the Lamprey River Management Plan 2007 Revision. Dick Snow suggested amending the bylaws to eliminate specific dates for management plans and replace them with “current Lamprey Rivers Management Plan.” He also suggested replacing the last sentence of Article II, Section B-4 with following: “The Committee may revise and amend the management plan as they deem appropriate and as consistent with the enabling legislation.”

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Dick Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

committee recruitment and retention:

Dick Snow will write a letter to all fourteen towns to ask for nominees. He will also contact current members who are not attending meetings. Current members were encouraged to represent the committee at local events and recruit potential members.

building and shoreland permits:

Preston Samuel noted that a riverside house in Raymond appeared to be undergoing construction yet no plans for the site have ever been reviewed by the project review subcommittee. Dick Snow did some basic research and found the DES project number. Todd Piskovitz will look for details on the DES website. Carolyn Matthews will be alerted to see what she might know.

Rivers Management Advisory Committee regional survey results:

All members were provided with a summary of guidance issues that resulted from regional workshops with local river advisory committees statewide. Dick Snow asked members to review the responses and note issues that might be at odds with LRAC's goals or realities.

logo:

Dick Snow contacted the designer of the original 4-town Lamprey River Advisory Committee logo and asked her to add an "s" to River. He shared how the logo looks with the change. The designer has agreed to waive her fee for the change and has released the original Adobe Illustrator file and

copyright to LRAC. Dick will make sure the original file is brought to the office.

other:

- Dick Snow shared the front cover from a recent article in the University of New Hampshire Magazine about saving Great Bay. He will try to get prints for everyone. In the meantime, the full text of the article can be accessed at <http://sukicasanave.com/baywatch/2083/>.
- Dick Snow asked if the Wild and Scenic subcommittee has a tax ID. The short answer is no. Dick will see about getting one for the expanded committee.
- The Rockingham County Planning Commission has applied for a grant to support water quality goals listed in the current LRAC management plan. Members were encouraged to be alert to other grant partnering opportunities.
- In reviewing the bylaws, it was noted that associate members are elected for a term of one year. Dawn Genes was originally elected March 22, 2012 and has not been re-elected. **Anne Lightbody made a motion to re-elect Dawn Genes for a year term as an associate member of the committee. Dick Lord seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- It was noted in the bylaws that all new committee members need to review the conflict of interest policy and sign an acknowledgement. No such policy exists outside the bylaws and signatures have not been collected to date. Suzanne Petersen will create a form for this purpose.
- Todd Piskovitz announced that the project review workgroup will not meet in July.

adjournment:

Anne Lightbody made a motion to adjourn. Ann Welsh seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50.