

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

**APPROVED AUGUST 28, 2014**

members present: Emily Schmalzer (Brentwood), Al Hall, Dick Snow (Candia), Anne Lightbody, Ann Welsh (Durham), Joe Foley (Epping), Todd Piskovitz (Exeter), Pat deBeer, (Fremont), Sharon Meeker, Preston Samuel (Lee), Michelle Daley (Newmarket), Suzanne Petersen (staff)

absent: Harriet Cady (excused), Dick Lord(excused), Jenn Rowden (excused), Fred Lindahl (excused), Kitty Miller (excused), Mike Russo, Peter Wellenberger (excused), Ted Janusz , Kathleen Hoelzel , Carolyn Matthews (excused)

Meeting began at 7:05.

summary of motions:

**Ann Welsh made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the bylaws that were introduced at the June 26 meeting:**

**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.**

**Sharon Meeker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

approval of minutes from June 26, 2014:

Anne Lightbody made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ann Welsh seconded. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

outreach:

- septic system outreach: Jill Farrell at PREP contacted us to say that Newington is interested in exploring the model that was created as a Wild and Scenic Small Grant from 2011. Sharon Meeker and Suzanne Petersen will meet with her (and Bambi Miller if we can contact her). The meeting is set for July 30 at 10:00, LRAC office. The Southeast Watershed Alliance might be interested in sharing this model, too.
- Hike It, Bike It, Like It: "Bike It" history and nature tour will take place on July 27 in Lee. "Like It" will take place in mid-late August in Epping.

- Junior Rangers: Classes with Epping Rec. are drawing 15-20 third graders with 2 staff people. The kids enjoyed the watershed model and had many good suggestions about how to prevent water pollution. So far, they have also learned about Lamprey River history and wildlife. Classes will meet Tuesdays and Fridays until August 15.
- Peter Little Bear: Debbie McNelly would like to be able to provide a copy of this children's story to each child in classes that do the Lamprey River Curriculum. The office has about 12 hard copies right now. The original file used to print the book is no longer available. Sharon will contact Peter Randall Publishing to ask about reprinting it in digital format. LRAC does have the copyright to the book, although the cover art copyright is held by the artist, not LRAC. Scanning the full book will eat a huge amount of data space, thus making it impossible to share the book on-line. Dick Lord suggested scanning it, converting text to a text format and inserting illustrations. If the pages can be scanned and converted to text, Suzanne Petersen can post the book on the website.

#### education:

- Debbie McNelly did a great job this spring getting Mast Way School in Lee excited about the curriculum. Sharon would like to see her get Raymond on board. Compensating Debbie was discussed. The consensus was that Wild and Scenic money is available and would be well spent. Sharon will meet with Debbie to discuss what she feels is reasonable compensation and whether she would be OK with being paid a lump sum per school rather than hourly.
- Sharon suggested we consider offering "river school" as a means to prepare new members, provide continuing training to existing members, and include the general public in our work. Time to discuss this more thoroughly was not available. Brainstorming and setting goals will take place later.

#### history:

- The John Hatch panel mock-up was shared and discussed. Suzanne will offer suggestions for modifying the caption under the photo of Ann Welsh and send to Dick Lord. Preston Samuel suggested adding the NPS Wild and Scenic River System logo to the bottom and all agreed that was desirable and appropriate. Two words in the timeline need to be separated. Dick will note these changes and send to Joanne Trahan for printing.
- Of the three kiosk panels at Wiswall Park that were vandalized recently, two had safety glass shields over the artwork. The vandals destroyed the glass shields using the technique of driving a sharp point into the glass. They tried it on the third Wiswall panel, but it was unsuccessful because that panel was protected by Lexan instead of glass. The art work on all three panels was not damaged. Lexan is unbreakable, but it can be scratched and gets discolored over time. Durham will be paying for replacement panel covers, so Dick will suggest using Lexan. The John Hatch panel is being paid for by LRAC and Lexan will be used.
- The Route 87 bridge kiosk needs repair. Dick will fix the rec. map box and use some Lucite he has available to replace the panel protector.
- Raymond will be celebrating its 250 anniversary this fall and Lee will celebrate in 2016. Sharon suggested we ask to be kept abreast of planning and participate as appropriate to include history of the Lamprey.

#### recreation:

- Joe Foley forwarded a letter from Epping indicating that it has no objections to placing a Wild & Scenic sign on Route 125. Preston will pursue getting permission/help from the state DOT to install the sign. It was noted that one W&S sign in Lee is nearly hidden by vines; Preston Samuel will remove them.
- The Town of Lee has stated a preference for metal poles for the Route 152/ Wadleigh Falls area canoe access sign. Metal poles are durable and standard with National Park Service signage, but they require professionals to cut and install and are expensive. If metal is not feasible, Lee asked that white cedar be used. Kevin Martin used black locust for the Mary Blair Park sign; black locust is highly rot-resistant. Dick Lord will contact Kevin and see if he or his sons might be interested in providing guidance or crafting the actual support poles and horizontal braces. Preston will get other quotes as appropriate.
- Preston has placed an order for the manufacture of the canoe access sign, a standard highway grade aluminum sign with Scotchlite reflective cover material.
- Preston provided an update on the obstructing woody material project. He feels that most obstructing wood can be relocated to ease passage, but expert advice is definitely needed.

#### land protection:

- Two active easement projects are in the works, both partnering with SELT.
- SELT is investigating the potential of converting a farm house to office space on one of the properties. LRAC could rent office space there.
- Two new properties, one in Durham and one on the Lee-Epping town line, are in the initial stages of contact and discovery.
- A landowner of 41 acres in Candia has expressed an interest in putting an easement on the land. Candia is exploring.

#### water issues:

- Good progress is being made, but Michelle Daley noticed that DES has mislabeled her data. The group is now working to clarify data definitions for consistency.
- Several new columns have been added to include the presence of dams, distance along the river, and tributaries. They are also addressing symbols that are read by the computer as alpha characters.

#### project review:

- Two culvert replacements in Lee; no serious concerns.
- Parking lot expansion at Seedlings Daycare in Epping; main concerns involved the applicant's desire to use porous pavement near a steep slope.
- Replacement of a dock and float in the tidal section of the river in Newmarket; main concerns were no plan for winter removal and storage of float and intrusion into the federal channel.
- Removal of a mobile home and replacement with a permanent house in Nottingham; no serious concerns.
- House renovation in Raymond; permit was issued in 2011, LRAC did not review, actual on-going work seems to be in violation of set-backs and erosion controls.

#### Wild and Scenic Subcommittee:

- Most issues already addressed above.

- Sharon Meeker provided copies of the basic process needed to get other towns included in the Wild and Scenic designation.

TOWN ISSUES:

- Candia: The town and DES are working to create a mechanism to allow solid waste that is sitting atop a capped landfill to be capped and stay on-site. In order to do this, DES must issue a new permit, but RSA 483 explicitly forbids the issuance of new landfill permits along NHRMMP designated “natural” rivers. Members expressed concern about the legality of this proposal.
- Durham/UNH Water System: The town has sent notification that it is proposing to amend its water conservation plan and is seeking comments. Representatives were encouraged to review materials at <http://www.ci.durham.nh.us/administration/water-ordinance-and-accompanying-documents> and related DES documents that can be found at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/rivers/instream/lamprey/documents/lr-appa-cp.pdf>, pages 25- 27.

amendment to bylaws:

**Ann Welsh made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the bylaws that were introduced at the June 26 meeting:**

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**Sharon Meeker seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

other:

- Dick Snow has submitted paperwork for renomination to LRAC.
- A letter was received from the Durham Boat Company appealing DES’s permit for the Route 108 widening project.
- A letter from DES in response to complaints from the Ammonoosuc LAC about project review time frames was received.
- A suggestion was made to spend part of the scheduled LRAC meeting time in working groups, to allow working groups a brief opportunity to make progress between regularly scheduled meetings, to enable LRAC members to contribute to working groups in which they do not ordinarily participate, and to encourage the involvement of all LRAC members from throughout the watershed in working groups. The committee members agreed by consensus to begin the full committee meeting at 7:30 to allow the water issues

work group and any others to meet at 7:00. The regular meeting will continue to end at 9:00 if possible.

#### EVENTS:

- Raymond Fair was held July 14. Sharon stayed all day and met several people who want to be included in mailings. Sharon met Dave Popieniek, whose wife Pat, regularly tests the Lamprey river as a part of her science curriculum. Sharon will contact her and Debbi McNelly to investigate interest in using the LRAC curriculum more fully and to offer assistance. Raymond will also be celebrating its 250 anniversary Sept. 13-21, with many major events planned during the celebration week.
- "Bike It" history and nature tour, Sunday, July 27, 9-11, meet at Sharon's house, 203 Wadleigh Falls Road (Route 152), Lee. Riders must wear a helmet.
- "Like It" nature and history walk, date TBA, Mary Blair Park, Epping, 10-noon
- The Newmarket Oyster Festival, August 9.
- The Lee Fair, Sept. 6.
- The Nottingham Family Day, Sept. 20.
- Durham Day, Sept. 27.

#### MEETINGS:

- project review workgroup (?) August 7, 7:00, Lee Safety Building
- Wild and Scenic Subcommittee August 12, 7:00 Lee Safety Building
- LRAC August 28, **7:30**, Smyth Public Library, Candia

adjournment: Anne Lightbody made a motion to adjourn. Ann Welsh seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53.