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UMRLAC, PO Box 3019, Boscawen, NH 03305

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2008
Bow Town Offices; Bow, NH

Members present: Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Nancy Roy (Canterbury), Harry Anderson (Northfield), Robert Wyatt (Concord), Bill Dawson (Northfield), and Rick Chormann (Concord)

Members absent: Anne Emerson (Canterbury), Krista Crowell (Bow), Alan Bartlett (Concord), and Tucker Noack (Franklin)

Other present: None

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. After members reviewed the consent portion of the agenda, UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda. **The December 8th meeting will be held in Canterbury at the Old Town Hall.**

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer was unable to attend but sent an email announcement of the birth of her twins by emergency C-section. Krista was able to upgrade her version of the QuickBooks accounting software before her surprise trip to the hospital and sent the CD via courier to the meeting so that Michele will be able to upgrade her computer. UMRLAC authorized the reimbursement of \$62.99 of stamp and thank you cards for last year's bug night volunteer work. There will also be reimbursements for Bill Dawson, Harry Anderson and Steve Landry's costs for the Annual Watershed Conference registration fee and for Bill Dawson's fee for the upcoming awards dinner.

Annual Election of Officers

The annual election of officers was held during the meeting. After a short discussion, UMRLAC voted to re-elect the current set of officers to their existing positions.

Membership

Brian Sullivan's mother died. This prevented him from attending his first meeting since officially joining UMRLAC. Our thoughts and prayers are with him. Rick Chormann has been renominated by Concord and Nancy Roy's health has improved and will seek to be renominated.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

The bug night schedule is not finalized and Steve may change the schedule from every other night to two weeks on and two weeks off. He will discuss the proposed schedule with the St. Paul's School. The bug night flyer this year will be patterned off of the Christian Science Monitor (i.e., the Crustacean Science Monitor).

The stereoscopes haven't been sent out for repair yet. Steve indicated that he found the scope with the dim bulb but is still looking for the out of focus scope. He confirmed that the discount on the repair work is still available. He anticipates that the scopes will be sent out for repair in the near future. Steve also indicated that two rock baskets have not yet been retrieved due to persistently high water levels. He is watching the water levels and intends to retrieve the rock baskets this month.

Steve discussed the UMMP biomonitoring report and indicated that the report will be available by UMLAC's 20th Anniversary. The templates have not been populated with the long-term biomonitoring data as of yet. Michele suggested and UMLAC ratified exploring hiring EcoAnalysts to input the raw data into the contractor templates. Steve had volunteered to complete this task but it is very time consuming. Once Steve has pricing for adding this task to EcoAnalysts' work scope, UMLAC can decide whether it is worth proceeding in that fashion.

Permits

UMLAC reviewed the alteration of terrain permit application for the Oxbow Bluff development. The original permit was issued in 2006 and has expired, a technical violation of DES rules. The application package was resubmitted with updated plans indicating the portions of the development that has been completed. UMLAC will send comments about the fragile nature of the bluffs and the need to have mechanisms in place to ensure that activities related to the development or future uses of the land do not result in erosion. Erosion on a similar bluff in Canterbury near the proposed landfill propagated quickly over a long distance and undermined a road. Steve will look for our 2005 or 2006 comments and make sure that our original comments were addressed properly.

Miscellaneous

- 1) Robert Wyatt will review the UMLAC website in December and provide recommendations to Michele for improvements.
- 2) Michele passed out two additional Presidential Service Awards pins at the meeting. UMLAC received the award for our biomonitoring and other volunteer activities.
- 3) UMLAC's 20th anniversary will be upon us and initial ideas were discussed on how to celebrate. Long range planning activities will start next year.
- 4) EPA has been sampling for pharmaceuticals in rivers in the US. Steve found out that EPA collected multiple samples from the UMLAC without consulting either DES or UMLAC. The samples appear to have been collected upstream of the Franklin and Concord wastewater treatment plants. These locations do not make sense since the treatment plants are the most likely source of pharmaceuticals. Steve will contact EPA and find out what happened.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Gary Lynn