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NORTHFIELD

UMRLAC, PO Box 3019, Boscawen, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for August 11, 2008
Northfield Town Hall; Northfield, NH

Members present: Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Krista Crowell (Bow), Bill Dawson (Northfield), Anne Emerson (Canterbury), Harry Anderson (Northfield), Alan Bartlett (Concord), and Robert Wyatt (Concord)

Members absent: Tucker Noack (Franklin), Nancy Roy (Canterbury), and Rick Chormann (Concord)

Other present: None

The Chair of UMRAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. After members reviewed the consent portion of the agenda, UMRAC voted to accept the consent agenda. **The October 13th meeting will be in Boscawen.** There will be no September meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The June Treasurer's report was submitted, reviewed, approved, and placed on file. UMRAC received and was invoiced for the 15 copies of the DES aquatic plant identification booklet (\$75). The booklet will be used to help identify invasive aquatic plants that might impact the Merrimack River in the future. UMRAC was also invoiced for renewal of our website (\$162) and for copies of the Volunteer Monitor newsletter. Krista will pay the invoices.

Membership

Brian Sullivan (nominated as a Franklin representative) has applied for UMRAC membership and his nomination is currently with the DES Commissioner.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

The bacteria sampling trend is very good. Steve speculated that the high frequency of storms has rinsed off the watershed. There is only one round of bacteria sampling left to complete on August 20. Steve thanked all of the bacteria volunteers and recognized Anne Emerson for her volunteer bacteria transport efforts.

Rock Basket retrieval was delayed by the rains and high river levels. Steve will communicate to the volunteers that rock basket retrieval is delayed until the river is at a safe level. Steve will determine when it is safe to retrieve the rock baskets by watching the data coming from the USGS Merrimack River gauges.

The stereoscopes haven't been sent out for repair yet. Steve indicated that it is difficult to find the scopes in need of repair because he will need to unpack and test all of the scopes. He will

find the two damaged scopes and get the repairs taken care of. Bug night scheduling will be taken up during the October meeting. Bug nights will remain every other Wednesday night and will be at Saint Paul's School again. Robert indicated that he posted his Didymo warning signs at Everett and NH Tech. Michele and Bill still need to post their signs.

Grants

The UMLAC and Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNRPC) Upper Merrimack Management Plan 604B assistance grant has been submitted to DES. The submission notes that some Municipal support letters are "in process" and will be submitted later.

Permits

Draft National Permit Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits have been issued for comment for the Franklin Waste Water Treatment Plant and for PCC Structural in Tilton. Harry, Steve, and Tucker looked over the NPDES permit application packages and decided that no comments were necessary, based on the quality of the packages and existing permit requirements. UMLAC decided not to comment on the DES laboratory hazardous waste elementary neutralization permit. The wastewater volume involved is so low that it wouldn't impact Concord's treatment plant even if the neutralization was improperly done.

Algonquin Power responded to UMLAC's comments on the proposed upgrade to the Stevens Mill dam. Their response elaborated on the proposed debris removal plan. They intend to isolate construction activities from the river with a boom and will collect concrete chipping debris daily. There will be daily checklist inspections completed by the company and weekly reports generated. Noncompliance by the contractor will be immediately brought to the contractor's attention. Work will be suspended, if the contractor does not address problems. Michele will send out an email indicating the UMLAC agrees with the revised plan but will inquire about the proposed location for the booms discussed in their response.

Miscellaneous

1) Gary will review the UMLAC website in September and provide recommendations to Michele for improvements.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.
Submitted by Gary Lynn