



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

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UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for January 9, 2017
Merrimack County Nursing Home, Boscawen NH

Members present: Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Krista Crowell (Bow), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury), Bill Dawson (Northfield), Gary Lemay (Concord), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Anne Dowling (Canterbury), and Thomas Gilmore (Boscawen).

Members absent: Rick Chormann (Concord), Mike Hansen (Bow), Donna Liolis (Franklin), and Alan Larter (Franklin).

Others attending: Tyson Morrill (Plymouth State University Graduate Student)

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda. The next meeting will be **February 13, 2017 in Canterbury**.

Membership

Rick Chormann has not responded yet on the status of his membership renewal. After multiple attempts by Michele to contact Rick, UMRLAC will wait for Rick to decide and contact us. Wayne Ives has renewed his membership in UMRLAC. Alan, Donna and Nita's membership will expire this year and will need to renew.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was reviewed, approved, and placed on file. Krista revised the postage expenditures for 2016 to remove miscategorized printing costs. The corrected total is \$305.76, which is within the approved budget. The budget for 2017 was discussed. UMRLAC voted to approve the proposed budget plus Krista's recommendations of additional funds above 2016 costs for upgrading the QuickBooks license and a \$40 increase in the storage unit budget.

Upper Merrimack River Monitoring Program (UMMP)

The schedule for bug nights is every Wednesday at the St Paul's School starting January 25th. The Bug Night flyer was emailed and a follow up mailing will soon follow.

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee

Michele sent a support letter for the CNHRPC Brownfields grant application.

NH DES Commissioner

The NH DES Commissioner resigned and an external event to mark his ten-year tenure is scheduled at the Capitol Center for the Arts on 1/24.

Guest Speaker

Tyson Merrill, Plymouth State University graduate student, gave a presentation on his Master's Thesis topic - Eastern Brown Trout in the Beebe River. His thesis relates to the impact of fish

passage impediments in the Beebe River watershed on the eastern brook trout population. NH DOT is in the process of correcting multiple road crossing culverts that prevent fish passage from tributaries to the Beebe River. Tyson's hypothesis is that the fish passing impediments make it more difficult for the trout to find colder waters to shelter in during the hotter parts of the summer. This can result in fish kills and decreased trout population. To collect data to test his hypothesis, he is using temperature loggers, fish surveys (via electro-shocking) and genetic analysis. In future studies, the impact of planned vegetation enhancements will be studied. UMLAC was delighted to hear about his research and the potential for trout stream habitat enhancement. A strong trout fishery would enhance New Hampshire's tourism economy; trout is an indicator species and improvements in trout populations would also signal an improved riverine environment.

Winter Lecture

UMLAC is planning on creating a drought panel discussion group for the Upper Merrimack Winter Lecture and St. Paul's School Birchhead Partnership Lecture Series. Steve contacted Brandon Kernan (NH DES) about giving his drought presentation and Brandon accepted. Gary Lemay is firming up participation by either John McGee or Matt Carpenter (Fish and Game). Michele contacted Stefanie Lamb of NH BIA to find someone to represent the business perspective. She will follow up with and is considering for the panel Eversource (hydro dams), Bill Hynes of Essex/Briar Hydro or Brian Malloy (paper industry). Wayne will call Phil Bilodeau (City of Concord) about panel participation.

Projects

UMLAC received a response from NH DES on UMLAC's Eastman Falls dam relicensing project comments. The final water quality certification document was not changed to address UMLAC's comments. In response to UMLAC's request to be involved with future developments in the permitting process, NH DES indicated that they would try to accommodate UMLAC's request. Michele will send NH DES a reminder of the statutory requirement for LAC notifications related to permits. FERC is expected to issue a permit in the near future.

UMLAC Annual Report

Michele will be sending out UMLAC annual reports to the municipalities. If anyone wants to include pictures or figures, they should send them to her.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare February agenda.
Steve/Michele	- Hold first Bug Night.
Winter program committee	- Firm up commitments with the proposed speakers, as necessary.
Krista	- Krista will prepare the monthly Treasurer's report

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.