



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Conference Call

Members present: Michele Tremblay (At Large), Steve Landry (At Large), Gary Lynn (Bow), Krista Crowell (Bow), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Anne Dowling (Canterbury), Thomas Gilmore (Boscawen), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury) and Mary Lee (Northfield)

Members absent: Jeffrey Perkins (Franklin), Ashley Warner (Northfield), Gary Lemay (Concord), Rick Chormann (Concord), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Mike Hansen (Bow) and Nita Tomaszewski (At Large).

Others present: None

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, after reading the Governor's Executive Order 2020-04 and his supporting memorandum on virtual meetings. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda (roll call unanimous vote). The next meeting will be another virtual meeting to be held on **February 8, 2021**.

Minutes

The November minutes and consent agenda were approved via roll call vote.

Membership

Rick Chormann's membership has expired but is in the process for renewal. Ashley Warner was contacted about renewal but there has been no response. Gary and Krista's membership expires in May 2021 and they will need to renew. Jeff Perkins' membership expires in October 2021, no update available on his status. UMRLAC is looking for new members and anyone with recommendations for new members should contact Michele.

Treasurer's Report

The Quickbook subscription expired so the Treasurer's report and proposed budget were not available. Both will be discussed at the next meeting.

Brownfields Advisory Committee

Mike will provide an update next meeting; he was unable to make the January meeting.

FERC Update

Gary Lemay was unable to attend the meeting and will provide an update at the next meeting.

AOT Rules Update

NH DES did not take the next rule making step. No change in status.

Guest Speaker

Steve is a member of NH's Stream Crossings Assessment Team (Team). There are 17,082 stream crossings in NH so the aggregate impact on streams is significant. Steve indicated that the Team discussed creating a speakers bureau. Potential speakers from the Team would include Matt Urban (Chair, NH DOT representative) and/or Diane Timmons (NH Fish and Game). Steve will follow up on having them speak at the February UMLAC meeting. Steve indicated that there is a tool that makes it possible to ascertain the assessment status of each stream crossing (over 6,000 have already been assessed). Steve and Michele will investigate making the tool available to UMLACers. Michele suggested that Wayne/Joe Schmidl recently gave a very interesting presentation on minimum instream flow. She suggested that would be a good topic for the March or April meeting.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

There are no bug nights this year due to Covid. This exacerbates the existing sample ID backlog resulting from a shortened 2019 bug night season. All of the 2019 samples were sorted and vialled; most of the aquatic insect have not been identified. Steve posed the question of how to address the backlog. We could ship out sample ID jars from 16 sites for professional ID but at \$120/sample (minimum) this would be a significant cost. The other option is to use volunteer labor in some type of remote work capacity. Gary and Anne indicated interest in volunteering to help out. Krista thought that we should at least obtain quotes for professional sample ID. The decision was made to delay obtaining quotes on profession ID services until the budget is approved and there is an updated Treasurer's report.

Projects

Steve reviewed the wetlands permit application submitted by VHB for the City of Concord for road work in the Whittlemore Road area near I-93 Exit 17. The road upgrades are necessary to support the increased traffic that will result when the Exit 17 area Industrial park is converted into a multi-use development. The project will disturb 4,165 sq ft of small wetlands (mostly ditches along existing roads). There will also be approximately 1.7 acres of tree clearing (AOT permit application will also be submitted). New roundabouts will be constructed and an I-93 ramp will be realigned. Based on the application, no wetlands mitigation will be required. Steve indicated that he had some minor questions about the permit application. For example, on page 2 of the supplemental narrative it references 1.7 acres of tree clearing but in a letter to Fish and Wildlife 0.7 acres of tree clearing is referenced. Also, in the answer to question 1.4 of the Army Corps portion of the application, it states that the project occurs in the Hayward Brook watershed. It seems more likely that the application should have referenced the Burnham Brook watershed. This may indicate that the contractor did not check the correct streams for impaired waters. Finally, the map on page 86 in the middle of the red polygon the road should be Hoyt Road not Old Bryce Road. The map appears to have been generated from a NH DES wetland mapping tool base map. The NH DES map was created in 1984 so details may have changed in the past 36 years. UMLAC will generate a letter to address these questions about the application.

UMWA Update

UMWA hosted a Turkey River Watershed Restoration Plan kick off meeting on December 14. There were 29 attendees representing UMWA, St. Paul's School, CEI (project consultant), Environmental Agencies and the communities. The meeting focus was a presentation on the Watershed Restoration Plan creation process and the logistics related to assessment of the watershed. A watershed assessment form has been created as well as spreadsheets on potential partners and areas that have been assessed. Related presentations, documents and maps are available via Google Drive and access is available upon request. Steve has already completed a UMLAC Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2021

watershed assessment form for the storm drainage issues on State Hospital grounds and encouraged other UMLACers to take part in similar fashion.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare February UMLAC meeting agenda.
Steve	- Contact Stream Crossing Assessment Advisory Team members about being a guest speaker. - Prepare letter on Exit 17 road work wetlands permit application. - Send Michele tool for determining the status of stream crossing assessments.
Mike	- Continue to track Brownfields Advisory Committee.
Adrienne/Anne	- Verify whether the NH DES wetlands map used for the Exit 17 wetlands permit application, page 86, is accurate.
Wayne	- Consider guest speaking presentation on minimum in stream flow.
Gary	- Prepare minutes. - Volunteer for UMMP backlog assistance.
Gary Lemay	- Continue to track FERC licensing activities. - Draft generic letter on shorelands and wetlands permits.
Krista	- Prepare Treasurer's report. - Prepare draft budget..

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.