



BOSCAWEN
BOW
CANTERBURY
CONCORD
FRANKLIN
NORTHFIELD

UMRLAC, PO Box 3019, Boscawen, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for October 20, 2014
Boscawen Town Hall, Boscawen

Members present: Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Nancy Roy (Canterbury), Anne Emerson (Canterbury), Rick Chormann (Concord) and Bill Dawson (Northfield), Wayne Ives (Franklin) and Madeline Mineau (Concord)

Members absent: Harry Anderson (Northfield), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Donna Liolis (Franklin), and Krista Crowell (Bow),

Others Present: Timothy Bernier (T.F. Bernier, Inc. and representative for the demolition contractor), Sam DeFranks (Apollo Dismantling), Bruce Crawford (Chair Boscawen Planning Board), Ken Folsom (Canterbury Town Administrator), David Foster (Underwood Engineering), George Glines (Canterbury Selectman), Cheryl Gordon (Canterbury Selectman), Alan Hardy (Boscawen Planning and Community Development Director), Pam Hardy (Boscawen Town Accountant), Rhoda Hardy (Boscawen Planning Board), Deb Hinds (Boscawen Conservation Commission), Nicole Hoyt (Boscawen), Bill Murphy and Lawre Murphy (Boscawen), Leslie Palmer (Boscawen), Craig Saltmarsh (Boscawen), Roger Sanborn (Boscawen Selectman) and Robert Steenson (Canterbury Selectman), and Kellee Jo Easler.

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 **November 10, 2014 in Bow.**

Project Proposals, Permits, and Complaints

The proposed Boscawen Canterbury bridge demolition project was first on the agenda so that the large number of attendees that attended the meeting solely because of this project would not have to sit through the entire meeting. Tim Bernier gave a presentation on the project and Sam DeFranks answered questions.

For the proposed project, the bridge would be dropped into the river one side at a time. A large excavator would pull each section onto the bank for demolition. The bridge segments will ride on timbers and steel plate so that it will slide out easier. The bridge would be cabled together to hold it together during the process. Prior to dropping the bridge into the river, the decking would be removed. After the demolition project, the debris that fell into the river would be removed. Each side would take about a day to remove. No crane will be involved.

The demolition contractor explained that they are not using a crane because the poor condition of the bridge will result in collapse of the bridge if it is picked up by the crane. This poses safety risks to the workers. They will also minimize sediment transport by conducting the job at lower river water velocities (the drawings will specify a maximum allowable river height of 256 feet)

and by installing a floating turbidity curtain to knock down the larger particles. The turbidity curtain and river velocity requirements were requested by the Canterbury Conservation Commission. The contractor also indicated that netting to catch debris would not be used because the netting can get caught on the bottom of the river and result in greater disruption of river sediment.

The contractor also indicated that the project needs to be completed this fiscal year because NH DOT and the Towns both have funds in the current budgets. An expedited permit review has been requested because of the timing needs and the current relatively low river stage. It is unlikely that waiting would result in better timing for bridge removal. Winter, for example, could make it harder to pull the bridge out of the river. An important consideration is that the relatively short period of time required to remove the bridge from the river will minimize sediment transport. UMLAC was grateful to have representatives from the company available to answer our questions and decided to support the expedited permit request with the project changes recommended by the Canterbury Conservation Commission (turbidity curtain and river velocity limitations).

Membership

Steve emailed Tom Walton of Concord about becoming a member of UMLAC. Tom is currently convalescing after an injury and Steve has not heard back from him. Steve also emailed Matt Cahillaine and has not yet heard back from him. Bill Dawson is contemplating stepping down. His term ends on June 1, 2015. The nomination form for Alan Larder has been submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Krista could not attend the meeting because of work related responsibilities that cropped up at the last moment. Michele noted that Yellahoose LLC completed the installation of the mapping tool and that it only cost \$100.

Wild and Scenic River

Bill reported on the Northfield follow up meeting held to discuss Wild and Scenic River designation. Bill indicated that Northfield is unlikely to sign a support letter. The Northfield Selectboard expressed concerns about federal control and seemed confused about the applicability of the more stringent requirements for wild river designation that would not apply for the recreational status that is contemplated for the upper Merrimack. The Franklin Conservation Commission has provided a support letter. Concord Conservation Commission will meet on November 12 and will discuss the topic. Rick indicated that the Concord Conservation Commission does not want to be the first to provide a support letter. He noted that the Conservation Commission prepared a white paper on Wild and Scenic River designation but that it never was presented to the City Council.

Gary reported that he met with the Bow Selectboard to discuss Wild and Scenic River. The Selectboard expressed their support for UMLAC and decided that it would be very important to see what Concord and Boscawen decided based on Bow's geographic location as the most downstream portion of the area up for consideration. Canterbury has a letter of support that is pending and the Franklin Conservation Commission support letter is going to Franklin City Council for their consideration. Michele indicated that the entire corridor would not have to apply for designation and that separate federal legislation could be sought for any portion of the corridor ready to seek designation.

Guest and Winter Speakers

The Merrimack River Greenway Group is interested in speaking at a future UMLAC meeting. Michele will work with them to schedule a meeting date. Michele indicated that the proposed date for our winter lecture series is March 26th. The lecturer, Mr. Caduto, will need a hotel due to the travel distance. UMLAC set a \$500 budget for the presentation (\$396.50 fee and \$109 for the hotel). Michele is interested in pursuing a NH Council for the Arts grant to cover the fee under their Creative Grant Program. Michele will use Eventbrite again for registrations and the presentation will be held in the Saint Paul's School auditorium. Wayne indicated that Dr. Richard Moore declined our invitation to speak about Merrimack River geologic history. Rick will contact John Cotton to see if he would be willing to speak about a geology topic at a future meeting.

Upper Merrimack River Monitoring Program (UMMP)

Steve indicated that all of the biomonitoring program rock baskets have been removed from the river. He is concerned that the heavy rains this year transported lots of sediment and the rock baskets were typically partially buried in sand. UMMP has reserved every Wednesday night from January to April at the Saint Paul's School new science building for aquatic insect identification (Bug Nights). Michele indicated that the Bug Night flyer is nearly complete and has a record album theme. Steve will be sending a few samples for professional classification to confirm several new families of insects that were discovered last season. Steve will be calling EcoAnalysts to obtain a cost estimate for the required work. Michele indicated that she would be following up on scheduling a UMMP technical advisory committee (TAC) meeting.

Miscellaneous

The New Hampshire Association of Natural Resource Scientists sent UMLAC a thank you note for the loan of our stereomicroscopes for their recent workshop. Rick was provided complimentary attendance at their workshop and learned a lot about grasses.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Michele will coordinate with Mr. Caduto about presenting at the St. Paul's School.- Michele/Steve will send out the bug night promotional flyer.- Michele will coordinate a TAC meeting to discuss the UMMP program.- Michele will send DES feedback on the demolition project permit review.
Steve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Steve will coordinate sample id work with EcoAnalysts- Steve will coordinate UMMP rock basket retrieval.- Steve will contact several potential new members about their interest in joining UMLAC.
Gary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gary will prepare meeting minutes.
Rick	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rick will call John Cotton to discuss a Merrimack River geologic history presentation.- Rick will follow up on Wild and Scenic River designation support in Concord.
Krista	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Krista will prepare the monthly Treasurer's report.

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn, UMLAC Secretary