



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for November 14, 2016
Franklin Hospital in Franklin, NH

Members present: Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Bill Dawson (Northfield), Gary Lemay (Concord), Mike Hansen (Bow), and Thomas Gilmore (Boscawen).

Members absent: Rick Chormann (Concord), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Anne Dowling (Canterbury), Krista Crowell (Bow), and Alan Larter (Franklin).

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda. The next meeting will be **December 12, 2016 in Northfield.**

Annual Meeting

The election of officers was the first order of business. Tom Gilmore nominated the existing slate of officers; the existing slate of officers was then unanimously approved. There was no request to amend the existing by-laws. The annual meeting was adjourned.

Membership

Everyone's membership is current except Rick Chormann; his nomination for renewal hasn't been received by NHDES or UMRLAC. Alan's membership expires in August 2017. Donna and Nita's terms expire in early 2017 and Steve and Michele's terms expire in September of 2017.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was reviewed, approved, and placed on file.

Upper Merrimack River Monitoring Program (UMMP)

Michele is working to develop the schedule for bug nights and she is finalizing the contract with the St. Paul's School for lab space for processing the samples.

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee

The CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee's met on October 26. The Allied Leather Tannery in Boscawen has been selected as a site for the grant and will proceed through the Phase I, QAPP, and Phase II investigative process. Mike will provide Michele with a link to the CNHRPC brownfields webpage.

Guest Speaker

Steve Landry, the Supervisor of NHDES' Watershed Assistance Bureau, gave a presentation to UMLAC on the Suncook River avulsion and efforts taken to address the resulting erosion and flooding problems. The Suncook River, during a period of heavy rainfall, cut through a gravel pit and abandoned a mile of its existing river channel. The result was a tremendous amount of erosion and sediment deposition that causes increased flooding and threatens to undermine the Route 4 Bridge. Steve discussed recent efforts to address the avulsion related problems including: 1) improving the resilience of the Leighton Brook channel, 2) FEMA acquisition of 43 flood prone homes, and 3) removal of the Buck Street dam. Additional future projects are planned to mitigate this costly and difficult problem.

Winter Lecture

UMLAC will investigate partnering again with the St. Paul's School Birkhead Lecture Series. A variety of potential topics were discussed including a presentation by the author of the stone wall building book "Granite Kiss", a lecture on migratory fish or John Field's lecture "Why do Rivers do That." Interest was also expressed in an additional UMLAC sponsored invasive species training event in the spring. Gary Lemay, Adrienne, Michele, Steve, and Wayne agreed to serve on a committee to investigate topics and speakers.

Projects

Gary Lemay discussed developments related to the Eastman Falls dam relicensing project. NHDES released a draft 401 finding related to the dam license. US Fish and Wildlife made a number of recommendations; their recommendations were supported by NH Fish and Game. FERC requested a post license water quality survey, run of river operation, and eel passage provisions. There is some disagreement between the key parties related to the post licensing water quality monitoring procedures and frequency. The NHDES final 401, prepared by Greg Comstock, will have the final say on the water quality monitoring protocols. Gary Lemay will prepare comments for UMLAC. He will circulate the draft letter and incorporate comments by email, since the comment letter is due prior to the next UMLAC meeting. UMLAC approved this approach by unanimous vote. Copies of the UMLAC letter will be sent to the Pemi LAC, FERC, Eversource, NHDES, Fish and Game and Fish, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare December agenda.
Winter program committee	- Develop speaker ideas and topics list.
Gary Lemay	- Prepare a comment letter on the Eastman Falls relicensing.
Rick Chormann	- Membership renewal.
Krista	- Krista will prepare the monthly Treasurer's report

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.