



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2017
Elkins Public Library, Canterbury NH

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

Members absent: Rick Chormann (Concord), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Donna Liolis (Franklin), and Glenn Brown (Franklin).

Others present: Ashley Warner (Northfield Future Member)

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 **January 8, 2018 in Concord.**

Annual Meeting

UMRLAC conducted its annual meeting. The current slate of officers was re-elected for another term. No revisions were made to the bylaws.

Membership

Rick Chormann was reappointed. Bill Dawson is not renewing his expiring term. Ashley Warner is in the process of being formally nominated as a Northfield representative.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report for November was approved and placed on file. UMRLAC also approved the proposed annual budget. The budget includes funds a replacement to the malfunctioning YSI meter, an update of the QuickBooks Pro software and a website upgrade to migrate the UMRLAC website to a Word Press format. The annual adopt-a-site support payment from Eversource is overdue. Eversource may not continue as a sponsor since it has divested the power generation portion of its New Hampshire business. Boscawen's support payment is overdue also and will be resent to the town.

Guest Speaker

Gary Lemay contacted Mary Alice and she is willing to be a guest speaker on Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) certification. LIHI certification is more stringent than FERC certification of hydropower and can be important for obtaining renewable energy credits for a LIHI certified operation. Gary will ask her about speaking at the January or February meeting. He will also try to identify a future guest speaker on fish passage.

UMRLAC will schedule a guest speaker for the whitewater project in Franklin (Marty?). Debris would be removed from the river for this project and other changes would be made to make the river more useful for whitewater enthusiasts.

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee (Mike Hansen)

The Brownfields Advisory Committee has not met recently. A request for proposals has been issued and the committee is looking for new sites.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

Steve provided a summary of UMMP activities. The last of the 2014 samples need to be identified and soon Bug Nights will start up. The Bug Night flyer will be issued soon and the flyer theme this year is Facebug. Michele is working on the St Paul's school contract for use of their biology lab room and a pilot effort for ID key upgrades using reinforced paper is underway.

The bacteria problem upstream of Sewells Falls has probably been addressed. Wastewater was plumbed to the stormwater instead of the wastewater line in a subdivision. UMLAC will confirm this during next year's bacteria monitoring program. There is also a probable cross connection with the State liquor store bathroom.

Gary Lemay collected water quality data at the biomonitoring sites using a multi-meter. UMLAC will continue this effort when the YSI replacement meter is purchased. The replacement meter will be maintained by the NH DES volunteer river assessment program.

Projects

Gary Lemay noted that there was not much new related to the Eastman Falls dam relicensing project. He cannot take an active role with UMLAC on this project because of work conflicts related of interest. Essex Hydro submitted a FERC licensing pre-application for the Penacook Lower Falls dam. They are using the traditional licensing process and UMLAC (Gary Lemay) will send out a letter of interest to ensure that we are kept up to date. An organizational meeting will take place in February. Fish passage may be an important issue for this dam now that the Hooksett dam has a fish passage system installed. UMLAC is also interested is whether some type of plant invasive species barrier could be erected at the dam. Additional Essex Hydro dams will be coming up for relicensing soon.

VHB responded to UMLAC's comments on the wetland application for the Concord Greenway trail project. The VHB comments did not adequately address UMLAC's comments. For example, comments related to the project's impact on flood plain storage and runoff weren't adequately addressed. Steve will draft a letter in response to the VHB letter.

The Wheelabrator Title V air permit is up for renewal. This will be a discussion topic for next month. Adrienne and Anne will take the lead on review of the permit. UMLAC's interest is related to the potential for river temperature impacts from their water discharge.

Miscellaneous

UMRLAC is resuming monthly reviews of the website and Wayne/Anne volunteered to complete the first review. Michele noted that proposed legislation would make dramatic changes to the current statute on permitting deadlines (RSA 541 A). The changes would make it very difficult for Conservation Commissions and UMRLAC to review and respond to permit applications. Michele will be tracking this bill. Wayne Ives (UMRLAC representative from Franklin) received the prestigious David Chase award from NH DES.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare January agenda.- Finalize St. Paul's School contract.- Bug Night flyer preparation and mailing.
Steve	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare response to VHB letter on the Concord trail project.
Gary Lemay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Write a letter of interest on relicensing of the Penacook Lower Falls dam.- Coordinate with the LIHI speaker and find a fish passage speaker.
Gary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare minutes.
Krista	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prepare the monthly Treasurer's report.

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.