



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for February 10, 2019
Baker Free Library, Bow NH

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

Members absent: Jeffrey Perkins (Franklin), Rick Chormann (Concord), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Nita Tomaszewski (At large), and Ashley Warner (Northfield).

Others present: Kurt Nelson (Eversource), Tracy Tarr (GZA), and Logan Young (GZA)

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 **March 9, 2020 in Canterbury.**

Minutes

The January minutes were approved.

Membership

All UMRLAC committee memberships are current. Mike indicated that he has frequent night meetings that may preclude consistent attendance and offered to resign his position. UMRLACers unanimously indicated that he was a valuable asset to UMRLAC and indicated that there was no desire for him to resign.

Treasurer's Report and Financial Issues

The Treasurer's report for December was approved and placed on file. The bank statements for January had not been received by the meeting date so the Treasurer's Report for January will be considered at the next meeting. All towns are current on their support payments. Nelson, Essex Hydro, and GZA have not made their adopt-a-site payments yet. Krista and Michele will make reminder calls to these sponsors. UMRLAC approved the renewal of UMRLAC's liability insurance (\$531.85 with ENS Insurance). Krista will also renew the UMMP storage space. Sponsorship of the New Hampshire River Council's Wild & Scenic River Film Festival was discussed. UMRLAC voted to approve a \$150 sponsorship payment.

Guest Speaker

Michele is working with Don Ware of Pennichuck on finding a date for his PFOA presentation. If they can't find a mutually agreeable date, an alternate speaker may be sought (Watershed Conf. PFOA talk?). Steve and Michele were guest speakers and gave their bug night introductory speech to UMRLAC. The speech discussed the value and science behind biomonitoring and outlined the Upper Merrimack River Monitoring Program (UMMP).

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee (Mike Hansen)

No new developments.

FERC Licensing (Gary Lemay)

The traditional permitting process has been approved by FERC for the three Breyer Hydro dams on the Contoocook River (lower falls, upper falls and Rolf canal dams). Fish and Wildlife objected to the use of the traditional process because they thought that the Rolf Canal permit could be controversial vis-à-vis the types of fish studies that might be required. FERC approved the traditional process over their objections.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

The first Bug Night took place last week. The introductory presentation and first night was attended by 17 people including 2 newcomers. Five samples were sorted and the samples all met the 100 bug criteria. Max Maynard is finishing the ID of last year's samples.

Projects

Eversource and GZA described their wetlands permit request for routine right of way maintenance. This project includes pole inspections, hazardous tree removal, and brush clearing. Eversource does not use herbicides and does 100% mechanical brush removal. After a question and answer period, UMLAC decided that it would issue a no comment email in response to the permit application.

UMWA Update

A quorum of the UMWA directors met before the UMLAC meeting. The Directors resolved the Turkey River Restoration Project funding. The project will cost \$75K. NHDES has granted \$50. CEI and CNHRPC will be contracted to conduct work on the project. The remainder will be for miscellaneous costs. The NHDES 40% match will be covered by in-kind match and UMWA funding. Michele will coordinate the project start up with CEI and CHNRPC.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Contact Don Ware about a PFOA presentation. - Send Eversource/NH DES a no comment email on maintenance project. - Co-host Bug Nights
Steve	- Co-host Bug Nights
Mike	- Continue to track Brownfields Advisory Committee.
Gary	- Prepare minutes.
Gary Lemay	- Continue to track FERC licensing activities. - Draft generic letters for AOT, shorelands, and wetlands permits.
Krista	- Prepare the monthly Treasurer's report.

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.