



Boscawen  
Bow  
Canterbury  
Concord  
Franklin  
Northfield

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PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2018  
Take Root Coworking, 359 Central Street, Franklin, NH

*Members present:* Krista Crowell (Bow), Anne Dowling (Canterbury), Thomas Gilmore (Boscawen), Mike Hansen (Bow), Adrienne Hutchinson (Canterbury), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Steve Landry (At-Large), Gary Lemay (Concord), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Michele Tremblay (At-Large)

*Others Present:* Marty Parichaud

*Members absent:* Glenn Brown (Franklin), Rick Chormann (Concord), Alan Larter (Franklin), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Gary Lynn (Bow)

The Chair of Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (UMRLAC), Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda, with an initial motion by Nita and a second by Tom. The next meeting will be held in Boscawen on April 9, 2018.

Membership (Agenda Item)

Nita Tomaszewski is in holdover status while their renewals are processed. Krista and Gary Lynn are expiring in May 2018. Anne is expiring in June. Mike will expire in July; Adrienne is also expiring in July. Gary Lemay is in holdover status, but has submitted his forms and is waiting to be re-appointed. All other members are current with their appointment terms.

Michele went over action items from February 2018.

Mill City Park – Whitewater Discussion

Marty went over the Mill City Park renderings. Marty stated that the project will be a river restoration project first and a whitewater project second, as there will be several river cleanup elements included in any whitewater design. Someone asked about whether the Winnepesaukee River is characteristic of a typical whitewater park in terms of flow, slope, and width. Marty mentioned that true Olympic-standard whitewater parks are a bit too strict for what could be physically done in the Winnepesaukee, so they intend to work with the existing physical characteristics in their design.

Marty passed around a concept plan showing the rough design. Marty noted many wouldn't consider the Winnepesaukee River "natural" in its current state, and pointed out there are numerous existing impediments (dams) and encroachments into the river from past industrial activities. Marty said that the river has an attractive gradient for whitewater kayaking at 77 feet of drop per mile; this compares favorably to most well-noted whitewater rivers in Maine, which are at 40-45 feet of drop per mile. Marty stated that there is contaminated soil within the existing riverbed, and that some of the groundwater running into the river is also contaminated. Mentioned that Nobis has done a Phase I and Phase II investigation of the Stanley Tools site, as

there are contamination concerns there as well. Also looking potentially into removing brick deposits in the river, which would lower flood levels.

Mentioned that summertime flows are too low to kayak in the river under the current layout, so a potential design may look to make the river more kayakable under lower flows. Whitewater construction will not be done by installing dams or bridge structures, it will use the existing native bed material. Mentioned that they won the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Technical Assistance grant and got \$250,000 from Franklin Savings Bank – they have selected two firms to conduct design and permitting work. Marty's group selected a whitewater design firm that has done 80% of the parks in the country. Will also be partnering up with VHB to do permitting and local field work.

One goal of the project is to determine where the low flow channel is and make sure that at 250 cfs (current minimum flow release) that the channel is deep enough to support whitewater kayaking. Not planning to use any rip-rap on the banks or heavy armoring. Marty invited the group to attend a stakeholder meeting in early April 2018. Marty pointed out that we won't necessarily have engineering answers to some of the questions UMLAC has posed yet; they will need to go into some of the design and analysis work first before they will know. Looking to do work at five rapids all the way up to Cross Mill Road – some of the rapids may not need much, if any, adjustment to make the boatable. Gary asked if they will assess potential design impacts to fish passage and aquatic habitat, which Marty said they would be doing as part of the permitting process. Marty mentioned that often projects may improve fish habitat and fish passage at the same time as the whitewater construction. Marty will send an email to Michele asking for UMLAC availability for a stakeholder meeting.

#### Treasurer's Report

Michele mentioned that she has received a bid for \$1,800 to retool the website. Also submitted a receipt to Krista for Bug Night forceps.

Krista presented the March Treasurer's report and the committee voted to accept the report and put it on file. Eversource is currently unpaid. Krista is expecting payment soon from Eversource.

Krista made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, which was seconded by Tom. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Brownfields Advisory Committee

No update on Brownfield.

#### FERC Licensing

Gary – no update on existing FERC licensing. Michele mentioned that she received a letter from HDR on the Lowell relicensing looking for any information that UMLAC may have on the Lowell Project. UMLAC agreed to have Gary fill out the form and will send out a draft version to the group for review before sending it back to Enel.

#### Permit Review

Anne – will do some detailed investigation into the Wheelabrator permit. No major updates until she can get some more information. Gary Lynn provided some information on who to talk to before departing on vacation and others will follow up.

#### UMMP

Steve provided an UMMP update. Mentioned there have been several successful Bug Nights. Michele added that the Bug Night updates are also posted on the UMLAC forum if anyone is interested.

Birckhead Science Lectures Partnership

Michele has contacted Fred MacNeill, and he is in. Steve is also looking into another contact, probably Rene Pelletier. Wayne will talk to Brandon Kernen about pharmaceuticals in the waterways. Everyone chose April 30 as the date. Last potential panelist – PFOA person. Michele mentioned that Don Ware (Pennichuck Water Works) may be willing to come and speak. Panelists may do slides or just talking points.

Continuing/Emerging Issues

Gary is continuing to coordinate with MaryAlice Fischer on LIHI (attending the May meeting in Bow).

Other Business

Michele received a copy of a letter about a citizen concerned with the large trees that are caught on the bridge abutment just north of NHTI and Interstate 93.

The State Rivers Management Program sent UMLAC a letter. They are interested in any pictures or promotional materials for UMLAC or UMMP. We get one tweet’s worth of text for UMLAC.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM. Tom has reserved a space for the meeting in Boscawen.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare April agenda
Krista	- Prepare the monthly Treasurer’s report
Gary Lemay	- Prepare March monthly meeting notes

*Minutes submitted by Gary Lemay.*