



Boscawen
Bow
Canterbury
Concord
Franklin
Northfield

PO Box 3019 | Denacook, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2017
41 Green Street, Concord NH

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

Members absent: Krista Crowell (Bow), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Glenn Brown (Franklin), and Alan Larter (Franklin).

Others present: Rusty Russell (Executive Director of the Merrimack River Watershed Council)

The Acting Chair of UMRLAC, Gary Lynn, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda. The next meeting will be **June 12, 2017 in Franklin**. Steve will chair the June meeting.

Officer Election

The Chair and Vice Chair positions became available because Steve and Michele resigned and then were subsequently reappointed to "at large" positions. After a brief discussion, UMRLAC nominated and unanimously voted to re-elect Michele Tremblay as Chair and Steve Landry as Vice-Chair. Michele took over the meeting following her election as Chair.

Membership

Concord is in the process of nominating Rick Chormann to serve another term. Alan Larter's term expires in August. Donna has holdover status while her reappointment is in process. Glenn Brown is still officially a member (until June 2018) since he has not resigned.

Treasurer's Report

No Treasurer's report this month.

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee

Mike indicated that there was nothing new to report from the CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee. The sites being evaluated include the Hillsborough mills, a Pittsfield gas station, and the Boscawen tannery.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

Steve updated UMRLAC on the biomonitoring program. All samples from the sixteen sites have been fully sorted and identified and as a bonus, volunteers were able to finish the 2015 samples also. One more "bug" night will be scheduled to finish the last of the 2014 samples. The insect identification tools now include a digital library of images. The images were developed by a private lab; the pictures of lab identified specimens are a powerful tool for the ID work. Steve and Michele also indicated that they are planning on holding a volunteer night to reassemble the aging insect keys. There are 30 to 40 binders so it is a significant undertaking. Michele also plans on using tear resistant, reinforced paper to make the renovated binders longer lasting.

The rock baskets (aquatic insect sampling device) will be deployed on 6/28 and will be removed from the river on 8/16. The bacteria samples will be collected on 6/14, 6/28, 7/12, 7/26, 8/9 and 8/23. Adrienne volunteered to do site 6 bacteria sampling and to courier the samples again. Michele will let the Franklin wastewater treatment facility lab about the bacteria sampling schedule; their lab analyzes the bacteria samples for UMMP. Steve will send out a save the date notice to volunteers. Gary Lemay will use the UMMP YSI in the field to verify that it is working.

Projects

Gary Lemay indicated that FERC issued the license for the Eastman Falls dam. The newly issued license has an appeal period and is issued for 30 years. The effective date of the license is 1/1/2018. In general terms, the dam will operate as “run of the river” plus or minus 0.2 feet. There will be eel ramps and downstream eel passage. There is a standard reservation of rights clause for upstream fish passage. Multiple plans have to be created: 1) water quality monitoring plan, 2) operation and compliance plan, 3) fishway operations plan, 4) eel passage plan, etc. Gary Lemay will review the schedule for completion of the required plans.

Steve indicated that the comments on the UST/AST permit applications were not sent. He will check whether the permits have been issued. The river buffer restoration effort off West Portsmouth Street was discussed. The property is near the former Gold Star sod farm and trees and shrubs will be planted in the 100 foot buffer as part of the restoration work.

Miscellaneous

There will be a local advisory committee (LAC) workshop on May 13. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Gary Lynn will be a guest speaker at a future meeting; his topic will be the state’s motor vehicle recycling facility release prevention initiative. NHDES will be conducting a significant watershed study on the Turkey River. Water quality, fish, and macroinvertebrate populations will be evaluated.

The project review process guidance document was briefly discussed. The document was amended to include specification of wildlife friendly erosion control products. Steve will probably change the should and shalls to recommended and when there are product recommendations include language indicating or approved equivalent. Steve will revise the document, add a new revision date, finalize it, and bring it to the next meeting.

Rusty introduced himself and indicated that he has been the Executive Director of the Merrimack River Watershed Council since October 2016. He is very interested in river water quality monitoring efforts and noted the two real time monitoring stations in Andover and Lawrence MA are currently online.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare June agenda.
Steve	- Follow up on the two tank installation projects. - Finalize the project review SOP.
Gary Lemay	- Use the YSI meter to verify its repair was successful. - Review the Eastman Fall license renewal schedule.
Gary	- Prepare minutes.
Krista	- Prepare the monthly Treasurer’s report

Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn.