

# Upper Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee



BOSCAWEN  
BOW  
CANTERBURY  
CONCORD  
FRANKLIN  
NORTHFIELD

UMRLAC, PO Box 3019, Boscawen, NH 03303

## UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2014 Concord City Hall, Concord

*Members present:* Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Harry Anderson (Northfield), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Wayne Ives (Franklin), Donna Liolis (Franklin), and Bill Dawson (Northfield)

*Members absent:* Krista Crowell (Bow), Nancy Roy (Canterbury), Anne Emerson (Canterbury), Rick Chormann (Concord), and Madeline Mineau (Concord)

*Others Present:* Christy Liolis, Ed Roberge (Concord City Engineer)

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 **July 14, 2014 in Franklin.**

### Treasurer's Report

Krista was unable to make the meeting and the Treasurer's report will be circulated next month. The City of Franklin budget meeting went well and an invoice should be sent to them.

### Membership

Alan Larter from Northfield is still interested in joining UMRLAC. He is on the Rivers Management Advisory Committee and is an avid paddler. Tom Walton in Concord might be interested and Steve will contact him.

### Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

The Franklin Wastewater Treatment Facility laboratory has agreed to run our bacteria samples and will be supplying us with sample bottles. The bacteria sampling dates have been switched to Thursday so that the sample collection meshes better with the lab schedule. The bacteria sampling dates are as follows: 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7, and 8/21. The results will be available on Fridays and can be posted prior to the weekends. A courier is still needed to take the bacteria samples from DES to Franklin. Nita and Bill could team up to do this but UMRLAC is still looking for someone to be the courier.

Rock basket deployments for biomonitoring are likely to take place on June 24 or 25, if the river levels continue to drop. The rock baskets will be pulled either August 12 or 13. The additional UMMP equipment has been ordered. The technical advisory committee (TAC) needs to meet to consider whether replicate samples should be collected. The arguments for replicates include lack of uniformity in river substrate at sampling sites, etc. The TAC might meet before the July UMLAC meeting at the Thai restaurant in Franklin. TAC invited members include Marilee Horn, Madeline Mineau, Wayne Ives, Steve Landry, Michele Tremblay, Rich Chormann, and David Neils.

### Guest Speakers

Ed Roberge, the Concord City Engineer, provided an overview of the Sewalls Falls Bridge project. He explained the following to UMLAC: 1) the original plan was to reuse the existing one lane bridge and add another one lane span, this did not work out because of the poor structural condition of the bridge, 2) the replacement two lane bridge couldn't go to the south because of overhead power lines, 3) the legislation to allow use of a portion of the easement protected conservation land was necessary because of slope impacts from the replacement bridge and 4) the 0.22 acre impact will be mitigated by paying LCHIP for the full assessed price of the acreage. Ed noted that there would be a trail under the bridge to facilitate wildlife passage and that there will be a heritage park to mitigate the loss of the historic bridge. There will be bike lanes and a sidewalk on both sides of the bridge. Construction will be complete by October 2016. More information can be found at the website for the bridge at [www.Sewallsfallsbridge.com](http://www.Sewallsfallsbridge.com).

Brian Sullivan will be the guest speaker during the Franklin meeting. He will speak on stormwater utilities. UMLAC will also work toward hosting a wetland regulation modification listening session in Northfield at the train station in August. A future guest could be the Merrimack River Greenway trail people. Gary will contact them to gauge interest.

### Project Proposals, Permits, and Complaints

Gary discussed the Merrimack Station NPDES permit modification with Jeff Andrews of NH DES. Because EPA selected a zero discharge option for the best available treatment technology for the wastewater stream, there is no need to comment on the permit. UMLAC will send a letter thanking EPA for the opportunity to comment on the permit.

### Miscellaneous

- 1) Gary will sign up for Bow's online notice of permits application program. Bill will explore the current permit application review process for Northfield.
- 2) Nita will be the June website reviewer. The website reviews will now be quarterly.
- 3) Nita reported that the Northern Rail Trail received another grant and will complete an additional portion of the trail. The organization also received an award from the governor and a national award for being one of the best trails in the nation.
- 4) Bill gave a presentation to the Northfield Selectboard on Wild and Scenic River designation and Northfield sent a letter of support to UMLAC.

### Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Michele will send a note to EPA thanking them for providing UMLAC an opportunity to comment on the Merrimack Station NPDES permit modification.
Steve	- Steve will coordinate a TAC meeting to discuss the UMMP program. - Steve will continue to look for a courier for the bacterial sampling and schedule rock basket deployment and retrieval.
Gary	- Gary will contact the Merrimack River Greenway group to determine their interest in attending an UMLAC meeting. - Gary will give Michele language for the letter on the NPDES permit for Merrimack Station. - Gary will pilot the Town of Bow's online notification and project comment system.
Bill	- Bill will investigate Northfield's permit application review process.
Nita	- Nita will review the UMLAC website

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM. Minutes submitted by Gary Lynn