



Boscawen
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Northfield

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UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2019

The Theatre, Merrimack County Nursing Home, 325 Daniel Webster Highway, Boscawen, 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), Mary Lee (Northfield), Gary Lemay (Concord), Nita Tomaszewski (At-Large), Michele Tremblay (At-Large)

Others Present: John Magee (New Hampshire Fish and Game)

Members absent: Rick Chormann (Concord), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Gary Lynn (Bow), Jeffrey Perkins (Franklin), Ashley Warner (Northfield)

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. The next meeting will be **July 8, 2018 in Bow**; Krista or Michele will send out parking directions.

Minutes

The meeting minutes from May 2019 were approved. Michele then covered the action items from the May 2019 meeting minutes.

Guest Speaker

John Magee from New Hampshire Fish and Game presented on work he has been leading up with Fish and Game, along with many other partners, in the Nash Stream, a tributary to the Ammonoosuc River. John has mostly been involved with the restoration and research components of the project, looking at habitat restoration and introducing wood into the stream. There was a dam breach in 1969 that scoured out nearly all of the stream's riparian zone, creating a long reach of homogenous habitat. John touched on many important aspects of river preservation, restoration, and the importance of riparian buffers.

Members will continue to brainstorm about future potential guest speakers.

Membership

Michele reviewed upcoming changes in membership status, noting that Wayne expires on September 30. Wayne will look into this with Tracy Sales or the City of Franklin and look to re-apply if he is, indeed, about to expire. Michele noted that Ashley Warner was the only member not to submit the financial disclosure form. If proposed legislation passes, this form will not be required next year.

Treasurer's Report and Financials

Krista presented the Treasurer's report and made a motion to accept it, seconded by Tom, which was approved unanimously.

There was discussion about transferring the UMLAC funds to our sister organization, UMWA, to allow UMWA to take over future financial commitments and discretionary activities such as UMMP, Big Nights, the Turkey River work, etc. Krista made a motion, seconded by Mike, to withdraw the full balance of the UMLAC savings account (the majority of UMLAC's finances) and deposit them into a new account for UMWA. Motion passed unanimously. Krista and Michele will work to transfer the money over the next several weeks, as they consult with Merrimack County Savings Bank on how to best accomplish the transfer. The money that is currently in UMLAC's checking account will remain there for UMLAC's use.

There was finally some discussion about UMLAC's annual donation to the Northern Rail Trail. Nita explained that some of the money for the rail trail has been going toward activities other than maintaining the existing rail trail, such as supporting future expansion efforts, and interconnections with other rail trails. Consensus was reached (no motion needed) that the UMLAC annual donation would specify that the funds were to be used for existing trail maintenance.

CNHRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee (Mike Hansen)

Mike indicated there have been no changes since the last UMLAC meeting. There is a meeting soon, and he expects to have an update for the July UMLAC meeting in Bow.

FERC Licensing

Gary Lemay provided an update on several FERC licenses:

- 1) Lakeport (P-6440) is in the study development process; field studies are anticipated to occur this summer based on the most recent communications he saw in the FERC docket, though this is not confirmed.
- 2) Kelley's Falls, on the Piscataquog River, is holding study scoping meetings on 6/27/2019 at St. Anselm College at 9am and 7pm; both meetings are open to the public.
- 3) No changes on all other projects; the three Contocook River dams (Rolfe Canal, Penacook Upper, Penacook Lower) are expected to initiate their licensing process no later than November 2019.

Upper Merrimack Monitoring Program (UMMP)

Bug nights have concluded for the year; some remaining specimens remain that may be identified by a small "summer camp" group later this summer, or they will be carried into next year's workload. Rhithron has promptly concluded their bug identification work and has transferred their results to Steve.

Steve mentioned that the Winnepesaukee River Basin Treatment Plant in Franklin will not have staff to conduct bacteria sampling this summer. The plant will be contracting out their in-house bacteria sampling work. UMMP will need to find their own sampling lab for this summer's work; the plant intend intends to re-assume complementary bacteria analysis starting in 2020, even if they are conducting the work on a contract basis. Steve contacted several labs, and found that the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) laboratory will do bacteria sample analysis for \$30/sample. Krista made a motion, seconded by Anne, to allocate \$2,200 (the expected costs of all samples this s to pay DHHS for conducting bacterial analysis of the UMMP samples this year. The motion passed unanimously.

Rock basket deployment is planned for 6-25-2019, weather pending. Michela and Steve will be in touch soon with final details via email.

Miscellaneous

Wayne had provided Michele with some draft changes to the UMLAC bylaws, which Michele distributed to the group 30 days prior to this meeting. Wayne made a motion to accept the bylaw changes, seconded by Anne. The changes were largely editorial and removed redundant language. The motion passed unanimously.

UMWA Update

Michele provided a brief update on UMWA happenings. There is currently a standstill due to budget and scope of work negotiations. Gary Lemay will coordinate with Michele to address this issue.

Project Review

Steve summarized the status of several on-going projects:

- There was a miscommunication on the Ferry Road shoreland permit; all issues have been worked out and UMLAC will be notified of any future permits that are within the corridor. This permit, as it turns out, was just outside of the ¼ mile buffer of the Upper Merrimack, and was outside of UMLAC's typical area of concern.
- Everyone was satisfied at this time with NH DOT's response on the two pre-project comment solicitations.
- There was some discussion about the I-89 interchange permit application. NH DES noted the group's concerns, and mentioned that they were not addressed, but then issued the permit without any conditions to address it.

Motion to adjourn was made, and the meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Summary of Assignments:

Michele	- Prepare July agenda - Coordinate with Mary Ann Tilton on a wetlands rules presentation, when she is available
Krista	- Prepare the monthly Treasurer's report
Gary Lemay	- Prepare categorical response letters for AOT, shorelands, and wetlands permit applications - Prepare June meeting minutes - Continue to track FERC licensing activities
Mike	- Continue to track Brownfields Advisory Committee

Minutes submitted by Gary Lemay.