

**Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2021 7:00 P.M.**

Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED AUGUST 17, 2021 with amendments

attendance: Dick Lord (Durham), Joe Foley (Epping), Kitty Miller, Jason Settineri (Lee), Jerry Martin (Newmarket), Grace Levergood (Northwood), Therese Thompson (Raymond)

staff: Jim MacCartney (by phone), Suzanne Petersen

guests: Sam Kenney, Lauren Kaehler, Duane Hyde, Dennis Regan

Meeting was called to order at 7:06.

Summary of motions:

- **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the research grant proposal by Lauren Kaehler for a total amount of \$3479.00 to be paid in full from the current 5-year cooperative agreement. Jason Settineri seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the following proposed changes to the bylaws. Jason Settineri seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Article III MEMBERSHIP

~~E. In the event that any member is absent from four (4) or more consecutive meetings without excuse/notification, the Chairperson may request the appointment of another person to represent the municipality or area of interest. The Chairperson may also request the resignation of the absent member. In the event that a member is absent from three (3) or more consecutive meetings without excuse/notification, the Chairperson may request the resignation of the absent member. Should the member be absent from four (4) consecutive meetings without excuse/notification, the member may be removed by a majority vote of the Committee. Upon such removal, the Chairperson shall request in writing the nomination and appointment of a new member by notifying the NHDES Rivers Coordinator and the represented municipality or interest of the attempts to contact the absent member, the number of meetings missed without communication, and the former member's term.~~

Update all references to the official name of the LRAC to Lamprey River Advisory Committee, thus eliminating references to Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee.

approval of minutes from June 15, 2021:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jerry Martin seconded. Minutes were approved with 5 yes votes and 2 abstentions.

financial report

- Bank account reconciliation, year-to-date, and land protection fund reports were shared. Everything was found to be in order.
- It was noted that the full year's rent approved for the NPS staff person had not yet been requested. This will be taken care of immediately.

Newmarket waterfront improvements, letter of support request, Sam Kenney

The Town of Newmarket has appointed a committee to explore improvements along the waterfront. One of the first suggestions was to seek a grant from the NH Coastal Program to build resilience and improve recreational opportunities. The retaining wall at Schanda park is failing and seems to be a good candidate for a softer, more climate-resilient project. The town would also like to improve access to Heron Point Park and is exploring the possibility of building a pedestrian bridge over the river from downtown to the park. A draft letter of support from LRAC was shared with the group and attendees were very supportive of having the chair sign the letter.

UNH student research grant proposal, Lauren Kaehler

Original text: This graduate student of LRAC member Anne Lightbody requested funding to support work and equipment to study and model erosion along the Lamprey River. The project will begin soon and end in the fall of 2022. Key goals of the work are as follows:

Revised text: This graduate student of LRAC member Anne Lightbody requested funding to purchase equipment and support work for August and September to study and model erosion along the Lamprey River. The project will begin soon and end in the fall of 2022. The LRAC was asked to provide up-front funding and UNH will provide funding for the remainder of the project. This project requests an exception to the normal LRAC grant funding process (50% upfront, 50% at project's conclusion) due to the timing of the five-year cooperative grant cycle. Key goals of the work are as follows:

- Create a high-resolution topographic map of the river channel and floodplain in the study sites.
- Install bank pins to monitor riverbank retreat.
- Install stage loggers to record timing and magnitude of flood events at study sites.
- Share all findings with the LRAC.

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land protection funding request from SELT, Duane Hyde:

SELT has been working with two landowners in Epping and Lee to acquire some significant property along the main stem Lamprey River. Several funding sources have been identified. SELT requested LRAC's support when the time comes to apply for funding from these sources. All attendees were eager to help and agreed that LRAC would provide letters of support.

workgroup updates

- grants
 - bacterial tracking- Steve Jones shared an interim report that covers four sample dates for the four test sites. All continue to show levels of fecal bacteria that exceed state limits. Moonlight Brook in Newmarket was the only site that consistently indicated the presence of human fecal contamination. All sites showed evidence of dog fecal bacteria.
 - Little River trail- The wetlands permit application does not seem to have been submitted yet and is key to the whole project. The grantee will be encouraged to make sure this happens at the earliest opportunity.
 - Wiswall water quality – Bill McDowell shared an update that new sensors have arrived and will be installed shortly. Good progress is being made on enabling real-time data sharing with the public via the internet.
- outreach- n/a
- recreation-n/a
- history-n/a
- wildlife-n/a

project review:

Four projects were reviewed prior tonight's meeting:

- Epping, amendment to 35-39 Ladds Lane, AoT
- Newmarket, 34 Smith Garrison Rd, shoreland
- Raymond, 4 Freetown Road, AoT
- potential Raymond project, 236 Rte. 27

proposed bylaws change for non-participating LRAC representatives—final vote

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other:

- Grace Levergood and Dick Lord will visit the Lee Public Canoe Access to get measurements for potential improvements.

upcoming:

- outreach, recreation, history, wildlife work group meeting, August 11, 10:00 in person at the Newmarket Public Library
- LRAC meeting, August 17, 7:00 P.M. at Lee Public Safety Complex
- Final review of current cooperative agreement budget by committee leaders, August 30, 10:00 by phone.