

**Lamprey River Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes September 17, 2019**

Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road, Lee, NH 7:00 P.M.

APPROVED AS AMENDED OCTOBER 15, 2019

members present: Emily Schmalzer (Brentwood), Al Hall (Candia), Mary Ann Krebs, Anne Lightbody, Dick Lord (Durham), Joe Foley (Epping), Kitty Miller (Lee), Therese Thompson (Nottingham), Carolyn Matthews (Raymond)

staff present: Suzanne Petersen

guest: Elsa Miller (Epping)

absent: Cris Blackstone, Jim MacCartney, Ric Raymond, Ann Scholz , Jason Settineri, Michelle Shattuck, John Wallace

summary of motions passed:

Dick Lord made a motion to transfer \$20,000.00 from the land protection specialist line of the FY2019 operating budget to the land protection account. Anne Lightbody seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00.

approval of minutes from August 20, 2019:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Al Hall seconded. Carolyn Matthews urged significant amendments.

Dick Lord withdrew his motion. Al Hall withdrew his second.

Dick Lord made a motion to delay approval until Carolyn's proposed amendments can be distributed and reviewed by the entire committee before consideration at the October meeting. Al Hall seconded. Motion to delay approval was passed unanimously.

financial report:

- The operating account statement, land protection fund, and year-to-date budget were reviewed and found to be in order.
- At the October meeting, we will discuss the committee's fiscal year end position, what money was unspent, and what money is available for FY2020.
- **Dick Lord made a motion to transfer \$20,000.00 from the land protection specialist line of the FY2019 operating budget to the land protection account. Anne Lightbody seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- A suggestion was made to add assessment of surplus funds to the agenda on the odd months of FY2020.

outreach, recreation, history, wildlife group update:

- The group did not meet in August.
- As part of SELT Lamprey River series, a presentation on eco-history and dams was offered at the Durham Public Library on August 14.
- Booth was set up all day at Lee fair, September 7. Four people stopped by indicating an interest in joining LRAC.
- The outreach specialist will be participating in a business association paddle in Newmarket. ~~Carolyn Matthews questioned the value of this work and if the specialist had the right to accept the invitation without explicit permission from the outreach group.~~ The committee briefly discussed this and expressed support. This was also discussed at the September 11, 2018 LRAC meeting:

potential partnership between LRAC and Seven Rivers Paddling:

This past summer, an opportunity arose to combine a "Hammock to 3k" Small Grant paddle with a Newmarket Business Association paddle offered by Seven Rivers. The NBA paddle attracted 24 people who were new to paddling and who knew little about the ecology and history of Lamprey River or Great Bay. It is rare to have this sort of opportunity to share the river and Great Bay with novices.

A potential partnership between Seven Rivers and LRAC was discussed at the outreach meeting and deemed to be a good idea. The consensus by the full committee was also positive. It was agreed that this idea should be pursued. Carolyn Matthews supported the idea, but said that Raymond has developed a working partnership for local Lamprey River events with its local outfitter, Mountain Road Trading Post, and that she felt that LRAC should keep the door open to involving local outfitters in other LRAC towns also.

project review: See notes attached at end.

water quality group update:

The latest report is almost done, but needs some revisions before being finalized. The student analyst will be invited to make a presentation to the full committee at the November meeting.

land protection:

Four projects have been approved for funding, but the transactions are not complete yet.

LRWA update:

- No meeting notes were available; they will be submitted at a later time.
- The annual meeting and spaghetti dinner will be held on October 16 at the Lee Grange. Doors open at 5:30 with dinner at 6:00.
- Copies of the newsletter were shared. LRAC paid for printing and mailing.

office:

- Several storage units have been located that will cost about \$90 per month. A location in Newmarket will make the most sense.

- The Durham office has lots of paper. Scanning on a home scanner is not feasible. Land protection files are complicated and will remain as paper. More sorting and clearing is planned.
- An offer of surplus lumber was suggested for the construction of shelving, but the committee would prefer to purchase commercial shelving.

town updates:

- Nottingham: An attempt to recruit a weed pulling party to remove colts' neck coltsfoot fell short of expectations. Attempts to invite the Pawtuckaway Lake Association to apply for a community grant are not proving fruitful.
- Raymond: The triathlon was held on Sept. 14. Participation continues to dwindle. The heritage day celebration was well attended.

other:

Committee members were reminded that most of the October meeting will be devoted to understanding the budget process and creating a plan for FY2020, the final year of the current cooperative agreement with the NPS.

adjournment:

Dick Lord made a motion to adjourn. Al Hall seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05.

attachments:

**Project Review Meeting Notes
August 20, 2019**

members present: Cris Blackstone, Joe Foley, Al Hall, Carolyn Matthews, Kitty Miller, Suzanne Petersen, Therese Thompson, John Wallace

Epping, Fecteau AoT addendum:

NHDES forwarded comments from the Epping Cons. Comm. indicating that the project site is infested with invasive black swallow-wort. The group agreed that an addendum to the original set of comments was warranted: We request that any permit granted contain provisions to take extra precautions to contain and remove all associated soils, seeds, and plant fragments from the project site and ensure proper disposal where this plant will not colonize other areas.

Candia, Japanese knotweed spraying, Special Permit Application-Watershed:

- The proponent would like to spray two herbicides to treat 2100 square feet of Japanese knotweed along a town right of way, including an area 20 feet away from the river.
- We ask that the town and sprayer be mindful to minimize damage to trees as much as possible and be prepared to add appropriate natural ground cover to minimize erosion issues that might arise due to defoliation.
- It is noted that the site is close to the town line with Raymond. We request that the town and abutting landowners in Raymond be notified prior to spraying.

Nottingham, Gerrish Drive, wetlands:

- The proponent wishes to construct a driveway impacting 2,153 square feet of wetlands to reach two buildable lots for private residences. The work will include the installation of two culverts, one with forest and scrub-shrub vegetation and the other on an intermittent stream.
- It is noted that Blanding's turtles, spotted turtles, black racers, and small whorled pogonia might be present near or at the project site. Communications between the applicant and NHB indicate small whorled pogonia, if present, will probably be unaffected. Impacts to turtles will be lessened by using reinforced concrete for culverts instead of PVC piping. Natural fiber erosion control matting has been recommended by NHFG to prevent entanglement and we encourage the same. In addition to required NHFG turtle sheets, plans include clear photographs of the turtle species that construction workers will need to watch for and report to NH Fish and Game if found.