

**Lamprey Rivers Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes June 18, 2019  
7:00 P.M. Lee Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road**

**APPROVED JULY 6, 2019**

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

staff present: Suzanne Petersen

**Summary of Motions Passed:**

**Dick Lord made a motion to recommend that the LRAC approve the Thompson Forest Kiosk Panel Community Grant for up to \$1200. Al Hall seconded. Motion was passed unanimously with one abstention.**

**Dick Lord made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with SELT as presented. Al Hall seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.**

Meeting began at 7:03.

approval of Minutes from May 21, 2019:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mary Ann Krebs seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously with two abstentions.

financial report:

Bank account activity, year-to-date budget, and land protection account were reviewed with no anomalies noted. A request was made to include a note regarding available funds versus committed funds for the land protection account in the future.

outreach group update:

The Thompson Forest Kiosk Panel Community Grant application was reviewed and was found to be complete. The group recommended funding for up to \$1200.00.

**Dick Lord made a motion to recommend that the LRAC approve the Thompson Forest Kiosk Panel Community Grant for up to \$1200. Al Hall seconded. Motion was passed unanimously with one abstention.**

history, recreation, wildlife group update:

Nothing to report.

project review workgroup update:

See attached notes at end. Next meeting will be June 27 due to July 4 holiday.

water quality workgroup update:

The student analyst had a good presentation at UNH. Anne Lightbody will check on progress in late June. The next scheduled meeting will take place in early July.

LRWA update:

- Carolyn Matthews reported good progress on the summer newsletter. LRWA would like to do LRAC member profiles and will provide a template.
- The LRWA board of directors currently consists of five members, but two are married. State law requires that boards consist of five unrelated members, so LRWA is seeking 1 or 2 new board members. If anyone would like to recommend someone, please contact LRWA.

Memorandum of Agreement with SELT:

With the retirement of the LRAC land protection administrator and limited available funds for land protection, a revision to the existing MoA was in order. Copies were shared with all members. A question about allowing public access was discussed, but it was agreed that no specific language needed to be included in the MoA. **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with SELT as presented. Al Hall seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.**

other:

- NHDES emailed a letter announcing that a member of the RMAC was due to be reappointed and the member requested LAC input about her re-appointment. The member's name was not available at the meeting. The committee agreed that no action was required and will abstain from commenting.
- It was noted that the walkway to the kayak dock at Schoppmeyer Park is mucky right now. Rivers for Change has scheduled a river clean up and public paddle there for July 13.
- As a follow-up to last month's report of invasive coltsfoot in Nottingham, it was reported that spurge is becoming a problem in a Brentwood pasture. It is noxious to livestock and can render hay unfit for consumption.

adjournment:

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

## **ATTACHMENTS (x2)**

### **Project Review Meeting Notes May 21, 2019**

present: Joe Foley, Al Hall, Jerry Martin, Carolyn Matthews, Suzanne Petersen, Therese Thompson

guests: Lindsey White (GZA), Matt Cardin (Eversource)

#### **Epping, Ladd's Lane intersection readjustment, wetlands:**

The Town of Epping wishes to create a safer intersection between Ladd's Lane and Route 27. The current orientation is at an acute angle and is of concern for traffic safety. The new entrance will fill approximately 270 square feet of forested wetland. From a recent review of this site, there are no species of concern. The group has no issues with this project. Joe will email NHDES.

#### **multitown, Eversource pole replacement project, AoT:**

The proponent desires to replace 60 wood utility poles with metal poles along 3 transmission lines running through the towns of Auburn, Candia, Chester, Raymond, Deerfield, Rochester, and Strafford. Access road and work pad grading are proposed as part of this project for continued maintenance of the existing transmission lines. Total impacts will affect 408,466 square feet of earth.

The Natural Heritage Bureau reports indicate that the project is likely to cause potential impacts to several species of turtles and snakes of concern. Greatest impacts could occur due to damage to wetlands and sandy nesting areas.

In a communication between the applicant and the NHB dated February 19, 2019, the NHB recommended that cut wooden poles be left on site to provide habitat for black racers. Mr. Cardin indicated that discarded, chemically treated wood left on site poses a significant liability issue. We recommend that all discarded wood poles be removed from the work sites.

The NHB recommended that disturbed mineral soils be left exposed following work, so as not to introduce contamination by invasive and non-native plants brought in by commercially available loam. Mr. Cardin noted to us that these site soils will probably be heavily compacted by equipment and rendered unsuitable for egg laying. In a compacted state, these soils will also resist infiltration of rain and increase the potential of erosion. While we do not want to see additional invasive and non-native plants in the watershed, we also do not want to lose valuable nesting habitat. We wonder if there might be some way to gently un-compact the exposed soils, especially those not near surface waters, following completion of work to restore utility as nesting sites and allow rain to infiltrate.

Although all the wooden poles will eventually need to be upgraded to metal, only those in the poorest condition are targeted for replacement this year. Multi-year impacts can be expected.

## **Project Review Meeting Notes June 6, 2019**

present: Joe Foley, Jerry Martin, Carolyn Matthews, Suzanne Petersen, Therese Thompson

### Raymond, 44 Sesame Street, wetlands:

The applicant desires to fill 530 square feet of wetland for a driveway to access the rear of the lot. The existing access is at the mislocated town turnaround. The group had no concerns. Joe will email NHDES.

### Epping, Riverside Subdivision, alteration of terrain:

1. The proponent desires to construct a subdivision consisting of 14 residential lots with on-site wells and septic systems along 1550 feet of new roadway. This project will impact approximately 176,457 s.f. of earth.
2. Three species of concern were listed on the Natural Heritage Report: Blandings turtle, brook floater mussel, and bridle shiner. Our chief concern is with the turtles, especially given that one of the recent reports from 2013 reported a female nesting. We recommend using standard precautions such as checking the area for turtles prior to work each day and using natural fiber (versus plastic mesh) for silt socks. Additionally, we note that sloped granite curbing is listed on the subdivision plan. We are not able to ascertain where it will be used, but curbing that is too steep or high can impede the ability of turtles to move across the land. We recommend consultation with state wildlife authorities.
3. Several bioretention ponds are proposed to infiltrate and treat stormwater. These systems will require specialized maintenance. The addition of excess sediment to these areas or improper diligence will result in poor performance or failure. We recommend that any permits issued make clear who will perform the inspection and maintenance of these areas, in addition to keeping catch basins that feed these areas free of sediment accumulation.
4. The deeds for the three lots closest to the river should include language that makes clear that the land adjacent to the river is state-protected shoreline and cannot be cleared of native vegetation or developed for access without proper permits from the town and state. Further, given the larger lot sizes of these parcels and the *E. coli* impairments of the river in this area, we encourage inclusion of a clause that limits or restricts the use of these lots for horses.