

**Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**July 16, 2024 7:00 P.M.**



Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED OCTOBER 15, 2024

representatives attending in person: Dick Lord, David Steinberg (Durham); Lauren Kaehler (Epping); Jim Brady (Lee); Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket); Grace Levergood (Northwood); Dan Davis (Nottingham); Therese Thompson (Raymond)

representatives attending by phone: none

staff: Jim MacCartney, Suzanne Petersen

Meeting began at 7:00.

approval of minutes from June 18, 2024:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed with 7 yes votes and 1 abstention.

financial reports:

Bank statement, year-to-date budget, and land protection fund reports had ordinary activity and no concerns were noted.

Lee Public Canoe Access repairs:

Grace Levergood met with the contractor on site Monday. Work is scheduled for late August, unless weather results in unusually high flows in the river. It was agreed that large sand bag coffer dams will be installed prior to work and that the water will be pumped to a sedimentation basin. The current Public Canoe Access sign will need to be moved. The new place might be the right side of the stairs, but ultimately the land itself will probably be a key factor as to where posts can be installed. If work cannot be completed this year, the contractor will deliver the granite to Lee DPW.

management plan maps

SRPC responded to our requests and questions for more data layers. In most cases, the layers do not exist and there was no desire on the part of LRAC to do additional research to add attributes. Per SRPC's suggestion, the committee agreed to extend the contract deadline to late November. There will be no extra cost associated with this extension.

other:

- Stream Team: A simple grid listing common reportable issues and to whom these issues should be reported was shared. The issues were determined through interviews with local conservation commissions, code enforcement officers, and NHDES.
- Kayak launch assist device in Newmarket: The launch at Schoppmeyer Park is not ideal, but it will remain in place for now. Newmarket is working on revisions to the master plan, including assessing public interest or support for improving boat access. Once interest has been assessed, the rec. department might contract with a rec. engineer to do a feasibility study to determine the best location for an improved kayak launch that will accommodate paddlers who need assistance.
- Wadleigh Falls draft panels: Draft panels for Indigenous history and mill village history were shared on-line. The grant work group hopes to finalize the panels on July 19 so that the panels can be printed and the kiosk installed before the end of the summer. A ribbon-cutting ceremony and public paddle will tentatively be held in September.
- Overall management plan progress was shared. Most components are done and layout has been prepared.
- Water quality team? Dan Davis has been in contact with several Lamprey River and Pawtuckaway Lake water quality groups. There is little sharing of information and much overlap of effort. He would like LRAC to play a role in coordinating testing and sharing of information with the public. This will require a team effort, but nobody volunteered to help with this effort until more information can be gathered.
- Planning for the summer, fall, and beyond: A public paddle is tentatively planned for fall. A family turtle event was suggested. Everyone greeted this suggestion enthusiastically.
- Toad research update: Many sites along the Lamprey River and tributaries have been investigated and several infected toads have been found. Most infected toads were found on the main stem Lamprey River, but one was found on the Little River. Other infected toads have been reported at Monadnock State Park and in Sanford, ME. Many captive toads seem to recover nicely once they shed the cysts, but some are retaining cysts in their skin.

adjournment:

Dick Lord made a motion to adjourn. Patrick Reynolds seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20.

Following the meeting, a wetlands permit application for Mendum's Pond dam repair was discussed by the project review group.