

Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes July 18, 2023 7:00 P.M.

Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED AUGUST 15, 2023

representatives attending in person: John Wallace (Barrington); Dick Lord, David Steinberg (Durham); Joe Foley, Lauren Kaehler (Epping); Jim Brady, Tasha Lewis (Lee); Ben Buckley, Jerry Martin, Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket); Therese Thompson (Raymond)

representatives attending by phone: none

guest: Lindsay Butler, Newmarket town engineer

staff: Suzanne Petersen

Meeting began at 7:00.

approval of minutes from June 20, 2023:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. David Steinberg seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

financial report:

The bank account statement and year-to-date expenditures were reviewed with no issues noted. The committee was informed by SELT that a \$30,000 commitment for a land protection project was no longer needed. SELT now has another project for which it would like to request funding; request will be made at the August meeting.

project review:

- Nottingham, 5-7 Flutter Street, wetland permit-by-notification for a culvert replacement. Information for a was shared and reviewed. No concerns were noted. Chairman Foley will submit the form to NHDES that waives review.
- Durham, UNH Burley Farm, experimental timber harvest. Map and letter of intent were reviewed, with no concerns noted. Chairman Foley will send a note to the applicant thanking him for asking for our comments.
- NHDES notified us of several projects that do not require LRAC's review:
 - Eversource vegetation maintenance in Candia, Deerfield, Raymond, and Northwood
 - Timber harvest in Epping by the Society for Protection of NH Forests

management plan revision:

- The draft history section was reviewed and suggested amendments were noted.
- Review of the draft water section was started, with major trimming of background material recommended. Key future actions will be reviewed in August.

other:

- Wadleigh Falls kiosk: The first meeting between the LRAC and the Lee Historical Association was held and the first planning steps were taken. The group will meet monthly.
- Sliding Rock grant: Draft kiosk panel has been designed. There is a big panel for the kiosk and a separate, smaller sign for park use rules.
- Newmarket sewage issues:
 - Sewer main break: Lindsay Butler reported that the break has been repaired.
 - NHDES response to our concerns about bacterial contamination from Moonlight Brook at Schanda Park: Commissioner Scott did not indicate that our request for signage at Schanda Park would receive any action from NHDES. Interestingly, the response letter also contained bacterial sampling data from Newmarket Harbor since the sewer main break. Of the several sites sampled, the boat ramp at Schanda Park had the highest numbers by far. On June 28, a rainy day, lab work showed results of **920.8/980.4** MPN/100ml. At saltwater beaches, the state issues an advisory to users when one sample comes in at 104 or above. (MPN is Most Probable Number of bacteria, a widely used lab method for studying fecal bacteria concentration.) These data were based on total bacteria, not just human sources.
 - The group discussed the multiple problems at Schanda Park and Newmarket's efforts to address them. Significant frustration was noted with NHDES's lack of action, delays in action from Newmarket, and hazards to human health from lack of advisories.
- outreach: It was suggested that the outreach group start meeting again.

adjournment:

Dick Lord made a motion to adjourn. John Wallace seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47.