

Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2022 7:00 P.M.
Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED APRIL 19, 2022

representatives attending in person: Dick Lord (Durham), Joe Foley (Epping), Jim Brady, Kitty Miller, Dennis Regan (Lee), Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket), Grace Levergood (Northwood), Therese Thompson (Raymond)

representatives attending by phone: John Wallace (Barrington), Mary Ann Krebs, (Durham), Tasha Lewis (Lee), Jerry Martin (Newmarket), Peter White (Nottingham)

staff: Emma Lord, NPS (by phone), Suzanne Petersen

Summary of motions:

- **Dick Lord made a motion to commit \$130,000 from the LRAC land protection account to the Pike and Mathes land protection projects, bringing the total commitment to \$161,505. Therese Thompson seconded. The motion was passed unanimously, including roll-call votes from representatives participating by phone.**
- **Dick Lord made a motion to approve funding for the Heron Point Community Grant up to \$5000. Patrick Reynolds seconded. Motion was approved unanimously including a roll-call vote by representatives participating by phone.**
- **Patrick Reynolds made a motion to reimburse the outreach specialist for a new laptop computer. Grace Levergood seconded. Motion passed unanimously including a roll-call vote by representatives participating by phone.**
- **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the transfer of \$10,000 each month from March to June 2022 from the operating budget to the land protection account. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously including roll-call vote with representatives participating by phone.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00.

land protection funding commitment request, Duane Hyde, SELT

SELT has been in negotiations with two landowners to place their properties under permanent conservation. Both projects should be finalized by the end of 2022.

The Pike property in Durham has 36.6 acres with Lamprey River frontage, numerous assets that are valuable to wildlife habitat and water quality protection, and it abuts other previously conserved properties. SELT has secured 95% of the necessary funding.

The Mathes property consists of 129.6 acres and is located in Epping. It has extensive Lamprey River frontage, numerous wildlife attributes, and is adjacent to previously conserved land. SELT has already secured about half the needed funding and is certain it can raise the majority of the unfunded half. The LRAC previously committed \$31,505 toward this project.

SELT is requesting an additional \$130,000 for both of these projects, bringing LRAC's total commitment to \$161,505. The LRAC land protection workgroup thoroughly reviewed the proposal and recommended that the full committee approve the request.

Dick Lord made a motion to commit \$130,000 from the LRAC land protection account to the Pike and Mathes land protection projects, bringing the total commitment to \$161,505. Therese Thompson seconded. The motion was passed unanimously, including roll-call votes from representatives participating by phone.

approval of minutes from January 18, 2022:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dennis Regan seconded. Motion passed unanimously, including roll call votes from representatives participating by phone.

financial reports:

Bank activity and land protection account records were reviewed. No problems were noted.

workgroup updates:

- grants
 - Little River trail: No change for now, bridges will be installed in summer or fall 2022.
 - Wiswall water quality: Final report is not ready. Quick update: The equipment has been purchased, installed and is working properly. The data are technically available online, but many steps which are not intuitive or user-friendly are necessary to access it. Making it easier to access and more amenable for public consumption would probably take another 1-2 months of effort from our data manager.
- history- Dick Lord and Dennis Regan will serve as co-chairs.
- outreach-
 - Mary Ann Krebs will continue as outreach chair.
 - Website upgrade is coming along well. Expect go-live soon.
- recreation- Jerry Martin and Dennis Regan will serve a co-chairs.
- water quality- Tasha Lewis and Dennis Regan will serve as co-chairs.
- wildlife- Patrick Reynolds will serve as chair.

Community Grant application for Heron Point, Newmarket Conservation Commission:

The Newmarket Conservation Commission seeks to improve trails, add signage, and remove two hazardous trees from Heron Point. The application was reviewed by the outreach-recreation-history-wildlife joint workgroup and representatives recommended that the full committee approve this application.

Dick Lord made a motion to approve funding for the Heron Point Community Grant up to \$5000. Patrick Reynolds seconded. Motion was approved unanimously including a roll-call vote by representatives participating by phone.

slide presentation on Raymond by Therese Thompson:

As a new resident, Therese has jumped into learning about Raymond. She shared slides that highlight good actions being taken by the community to protect nature and encourage people to appreciate the river, as well as some troubling slides that show much of Raymond's industrial and commercial activity is very close to the Lamprey River. Several slides showed how vulnerable Raymond is to flooding.

other:

- Given that some representatives will be participating by phone for the foreseeable future, we should make communications easier and not rely solely on the speaker of a cell phone. Patrick Reynolds offered to investigate options for conference call equipment.
- The outreach specialist currently uses a home computer, but a laptop computer would enable her to do Zoom meetings and have utility for other LRAC purposes. **Patrick Reynolds made a motion to reimburse the outreach specialist for a new laptop computer. Grace Levergood seconded. Motion passed unanimously including a roll-call vote by representatives participating by phone.**
- The main stem Lamprey River currently has an instream flow management plan, but the NH State-designated tributaries do not have flow gages to inform the creation of instream flow management plans. NHDES will be working with landowners along the tributaries to install flow gages. The person in charge has offered to make a presentation to the committee to share the details and will be invited to make a presentation in the near future.
- After reviewing the budget and year-to-date financials, Joe Foley recommended that \$10,000 be transferred each month for the next four months (March-June) to the land protection account. **Dick Lord made a motion to approve the transfer of \$10,000 each month from March to June 2022 from the operating budget to the land protection account. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously including roll-call vote with representatives participating by phone.**

adjournment:

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