

**Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2026 7:00 P.M.**



Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road

APPROVED AS AMENDED JULY 21, 2026

representatives attending in person:

John Wallace (Barrington), Matt Lake, Dick Lord, David Steinberg (Durham); Jim Brady (Lee); Dan Mullaney, Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket); Grace Levergood (Northwood); Dan Davis (Nottingham); Kathy McDonald, Therese Thompson (Raymond)

staff: Suzanne Petersen

Meeting began at 6:50.

summary of motions passed:

- **Patrick Reynolds made a motion to approve 2 community grants to the Newmarket Conservation Commission: up to \$3,000.00 for the Wiggin Farm Conservation Area Management Plan Update and up to \$3,000 for the Follett's Brook Natural Resource Inventory and Trails Assessment. Dave Steinberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **John Wallace made a motion to approve up to \$200,000 for SELT's Banks land protection project in Lee, effective through Dec. 31, 2028. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Kathy McDonald made a motion to approve the draft letter regarding the Epping WWTF AoT application to NHDES with amendments. Matt Lake seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

citizens' forum:

Jim Hadley of Nottingham handed out packets containing information about the proposed data center on land for the proposed but denied USA Springs water bottling facility. Nottingham has formed a Zoning and Regulation Update Subcommittee to address this and other potential data centers in town. He encouraged LRAC to stay abreast of developments and to consult with Nottingham and UNH hydrologists if this proposal resurfaces.

approval of minutes from May 19, 2026:

Dick Lord made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. John Wallace seconded. Minutes were approved with 8 yes votes and 2 abstentions.

financials:

- Checking account, year-to-date, and land protection account were reviewed with no issues noted. The 2026-2027 budget should be made available soon by the National Park Service.

- SELT reported via email that the Bald Hill Tract project has closed. They thanked LRAC for its support.

grant requests; Newmarket Conservation Commission, Ellen Snyder

- Wiggins Farm Conservation Area Management Plan Update
The last update was completed in 2016. The last natural resource inventory was completed more than 20 years ago. The Newmarket Conservation Commission was awarded \$13,000 from the Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership stewardship grant for this project. LRAC is being asked to provide the remaining \$3,000 needed.
- Follett's Brook Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) and Trails Assessment
Follett's Brook watershed includes 8 town-owned parcels totaling 131 acres and is one of five Priority Focus Areas in the 2024 Newmarket Open Space Plan. The NRI will help to identify and guide suitable pathways for people and nature. The Newmarket Conservation Commission was awarded \$13,000 from the Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership stewardship grant for this project. LRAC is being asked to provide the remaining \$3,000 needed.

Patrick Reynolds made a motion to approve 2 community grants to the Newmarket Conservation Commission: up to \$3,000.00 for the Wiggins Farm Conservation Area Management Plan Update and up to \$3,000 for the Follett's Brook Natural Resource Inventory and Trails Assessment. Dave Steinberg seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

SELT land protection funding request for Banks property in Lee, Ben Engel

This project to protect 364 acres was originally introduced to the LRAC on November 18, 2025. The committee tentatively approved up to \$200,000 contingent on having the landowner and SELT agree that LRAC money would be prioritized for the 71-acre Lamprey River unit and that the landowner and SELT execute the formal project agreement. The total needed for the project is approximately \$6.5 million with multiple funding sources. **The landowner has agreed to a bargain sale conservation easement of \$3,170,000.**

John Wallace made a motion to approve up to \$200,000 for SELT's Banks land protection project in Lee effective through Dec. 31, 2028. Jim Brady seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

project review:

- Epping, WWTF upgrades, AoT: **Kathy McDonald made a motion to approve the draft letter regarding the Epping WWTF AoT application to NHDES with amendments. Matt Lake seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Chair Grace Levergood will be away much of this summer. She will contact NHDES to request that paper application files be mailed to Dan Mullaney. Vice chair Dick Lord will sign in her absence.

June 6 guided paddle wrap-up

We had 15 participants plus three experts and 3 Seven Rivers Paddling staff people. Total cost was \$570.00. Suggestions were offered to improve a similar paddle next year. One participant requested a guided paddle in Epping and we will look into that, possibly for next spring.

upcoming events:

- June 17, Lee Family Night Out, Little River Park, 5-8:00 P.M.
- July 23, *How to Protect our Land and River* presentation, Northwood Town Hall, 7:00
- August 7, Newmarket Backyard Bash, Rec Fields
- August 16, Durham Farm Day, LaRoche Farm

Next meeting: July 21, Lee Public Safety Complex

adjournment:

David Steinberg made a motion to adjourn. Dick Lord seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05

Minutes recorded by Suzanne Petersen