

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee
November 29, 2016
Pease Library
Plymouth, New Hampshire
Minutes

Members Present:

Max Stamp (Bristol); Dan Paradis (Bristol); Barry Draper (New Hampton); Carl Lehner (Holderness); Bill Bolton (Plymouth); Mike O'Donnell (Holderness); Kelly van Lingen (New Hampton).

Guests Present:

Gretchen Draper (New Hampton); Dave Jeffers (LRPC)

Call to Order:

Chairman Max Stamp called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Carl Lehner made a motion, seconded by Bill Bolton, to approve the October minutes. The motion carried with one abstention from Kelly.

Joe Boyer, Director, PSU Center for the Environment (7:05 PM to 7:40 PM):

Joe provided an overview of the program at the Center for the Environment. It is an on-campus research center involving faculty from various departments. It provides an outlet and support for student research and education. The program's focus is on resilience, adaptation, and climate change. The program is trying to get undergraduate students more involved in research and local communities in order to gain experience. They will be using students to provide more local monitoring of water quality in the Pemi watershed. The students will be using submersible instruments from the now completed LoVoTec program. Boyer noted that LoVoTec data analysis indicates that water salinity remains high even in the summer which indicates groundwater sources. They are looking to build a partnership/collaboration with PRLAC and other local environmental organizations and businesses. The Center is doing press releases, engagement and publishing in scientific journals.

For our part, PRLAC is looking for additional people to join the committee and help with water testing and other watershed initiatives.

LRPC – Groundwater/Aquifer Protection Grant Application (7:40 PM to 8:05 PM):

Dave Jeffers has received interest in this grant from the town of Ashland. The town is looking at salinity levels and their water and sewer commission is working with DES on some issues. LRPC is anticipating a formal letter of support from Ashland (received). Dave would like to hear if any other towns are interested in this grant opportunity. Meredith may join in on this opportunity to work on issues related to storm water runoff and drinking water. This is an annual grant.

Northern Pass (NPT) (8:05 PM to 8:30 PM):

NPT is scheduled to respond by mid-December on requests from DES. PRLAC will have an opportunity to provide follow up testimony.

The remaining SEC schedule was discussed with focus on:

- NPT submits it data requests to PRLAC on 11/30/16
- NPT response to DES report and PRLAC responses scheduled for December
- Technical sessions scheduled for January and February
- Pre-trial details and hearing in March
- Hearings scheduled for April and May

Other (8:30 PM to 8:55PM)

PRLAC has been experiencing a shortfall for administrative costs provided by LRPC with annual services costing approximately \$2,200 and usually 8 communities contributing \$250 each. This year's request to most communities was for \$300. Ideas for additional revenue and cost cutting were discussed. No final decisions were made.

Adjournment:

8:55 PM – Motion to adjourn was made by Barry Draper and seconded by Carl Lehner, all in favor

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly A. van Lingen