

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee  
March 26, 2013 at Boyd Hall  
Plymouth, New Hampshire

**Minutes**

**Members Present:**

Max Stamp (Bristol); Dan Paradis (Bristol); Jane Kellogg (Campton); Carl Lehner (Holderness); Dan Stack (Ashland)

**Also Present:**

Dave Jeffers (LRPC)

**Call to Order:**

A quorum having arrived, Chairman Max Stamp called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Jane Kellogg made a motion seconded by Carl Lehner to approve the minutes of February 26, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

**Funding:**

Max distributed a draft letter to the corridor towns summarizing what we do and reminding them of their commitment. This is to be followed up by an "invoice", which most of the towns need to remit their payment. Our request this year was for \$250, which is an increase of \$50 over last year. Most of the towns are expected to honor this request, but New Hampton's contribution is expected to remain at \$200. No support is expected from Franklin, which is more involved with the Upper Merrimac LAC and which disagreed with PRLAC's opposition to the Northern Pass project.

**PRLAC Management Plan:**

Prior to the meeting Dave Jeffers had mailed to members the latest version of the plan along with a list of the changes made since the last meeting. He had also sent a draft matrix of recommendations for implementation by email. He explained that tonight's work on the plan would include three parts: a review of the latest changes, further suggestions for revisions, and a discussion of how to approach the "implementation" aspect of the plan. Members generally approved of the latest revisions and offered only a few minor changes. Dan Paradis suggested that a "Federal" sub-section be added to the "Existing Laws and Regulations" section to reflect the EPA's permitting requirements for construction activities exceeding 1 acre. Dave promised to investigate this and to include the appropriate information.

Dave reported that he had shared the draft plan with the DES and that they were pleased with the work so far. Although the content of the plan is strictly up to PRLAC, DES did suggest that we include more material on implementation, which is what inspired Dave to prepare the implementation matrix emailed to members. There was some discussion as to whether the matrix should be included in the body of the text, in the Appendix or not at all. Max had prepared an outline of a possible way to narrow our focus for the next year by concentrating on those areas with which we are already involved, specifically stormwater runoff, outreach and monitoring water quality. After some discussion, the consensus was to include the matrix in the appendix and to include some general material on implementation in the body of the document. The group felt that narrowing the focus from the 69 recommendations in the matrix is something that should take place periodically within PRLAC, as it would be impossible to set priorities now which would remain static over ten years or more.

At this point, Carl Lehner made a motion, seconded by Jane Kellogg, to accept the proposed management plan as presented but subject to minor revisions and additions by Dave Jeffers and Max Stamp. The motion passed unanimously.

After the plan was accepted, there was a brief discussion of the cover. The group approved of the latest version, which now includes a picture of the Blair covered bridge. Jane Kellogg suggested the title be in a larger or bolder font and Dave said he would try to address this concern. As to distribution, Dave said each member town

would receive two print copies and a CD version.

**Other:**

Schedule Conflict: The “Friends of Livermore Falls” group is meeting on April 30 at the same time as our regular PRLAC meeting. It was agreed that representation by one or two PRLAC members at their meeting would be adequate to maintain contact with them and it was decided to hold our meeting at the regular date and time.

Watershed Conference (PSU 3/22/13): Carl Lehner was the only member of the group to have attended. The Governor spoke briefly to the attendees, which numbered about 150. The workshops were interesting but Carl felt he was already aware of most of the insights the ones he attended offered.

Pending Legislation: Copies of HB 513 were passed out. This bill restores some of the protections of the pre-2012 Shoreland Protection Act although not completely. Passage is supported by NHLakes and LRPC. Having the sponsorship of two senators (Majority Leader Jeb Bradley and Martha Fuller Clark) as well as several representatives gives the bill a reasonable chance of passage. Senate Bill 124 attempts to streamline the permitting process and has the support of DES. Unfortunately, it would remove the role of the LACs in the permitting process. Several members attested to the value of PRLAC review and felt this was a step in the wrong direction.

Distribution of 2012 Water Quality Monitoring Results: The group felt that the information is quite technical and lacks any explanations which would make it more meaningful. The data can be accessed on the DES website with a link from the PRLAC site, which most members agreed is adequate.

NH Rivers Council Film Festival: Max passed out an announcement from NH Rivers for the film “A Climate of Change” which will be shown at the Red River Theaters in Concord at 6:30 PM on Friday, March 29.

Upcoming Workshops & Conferences: DES is planning on a watershed conference in May. Specifics are not yet available. At 4:00 PM on March 27, PSU’s Center for the Environment is sponsoring a colloquium entitled “New Hampshire Lives on Water” at Boyd Hall.

Local Projects: Jane Kellogg reported that the conservation commissions of seven towns are discussing the possibility of doing a monthly article for the *Record-Enterprise* tentatively titled “Conservation Matters”. If this comes to pass, she suggested PRLAC might prepare one or two articles per year as public outreach.

**Adjournment:**

Max Stamp made a motion seconded by Carl Lehner to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Paradis  
Secretary