Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee November 27, 2012 at Pease Public Library Plymouth, New Hampshire

Minutes

Members Present:

Max Stamp (Bristol); Dan Paradis (Bristol); Barry Draper (New Hampton); John Kelly (Plymouth); Mike O'Donnell (Holderness); Jane Kellogg (Campton); Dan Stack (Ashland)

Also Present:

Dave Jeffers (LRPC)

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Dan Stack made a motion seconded by Jane Kellogg to approve the minutes of October 30, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

Introduction of New Member:

Dave Jeffers reported that Dan Stack has been appointed to PRLAC by DES as an Ashland representative. When asked about his interests and experience, Dan explained that he had an academic background in planning, is a retired airline pilot, has served on the Squam Lakes Association Board of Directors and is currently a member of the Ashland Conservation Commission. He is joining PRLAC to further his interest in planning and preservation. Max welcomed him to the group and thanked him for volunteering.

Draft Annual Report:

The first item on the agenda was to review the draft of the annual report to corridor towns which Max had revised based on member comments at the last meeting. Max pointed out that this is a two-page report compared to the one-page reports submitted in the past and asked for suggestions for cutting it down if the towns asked us to do so. The group agreed that we should not try to cut it down at this point, but only if a town requires us to do so. A few minor edits were suggested, but when the discussion drifted into questions of policy, Dave pointed out that this is supposed to be summary of actions taken in 2012, not a policy statement. Max reminded the group that our time was limited and suggested that any further comments could be done via email.

"Friends of the Pemi" Organizational Meeting

Mike O'Donnell reported that he had recently attended a meeting organized by Shelagh Connelly who is a Holderness selectman and wife of PRLAC member Marty Riehs. Among the participants at the meeting were the President of PSU, representatives of NH Fish & Game and of DRED. The main focus of the meeting was on improving the scenic and recreational values along the Pemi, particularly in the Livermore Falls area. The group would like to make the area surrounding Livermore Fall more park-like and family-friendly with the hope of discouraging the abuse of the area by PSU students and others, which has been a recurring problem. The main outcome of the meeting was the decision to create a "Friends of the Pemi" organization under the auspices of the Plymouth Rotary to work toward the group's goals. Max thanked Mike for his report, and Mike and Jane Kellogg agreed to keep PRLAC informed about the new organization.

Status of Corridor Management Plan:

Dave reminded members that the contract with DES calls for completion of the report by December 31, 2012, at which point the contract expires. For a variety of reasons it has become clear that more time will be needed, particularly in light of the need to provide greater opportunity for public input. Dave has been in touch with Jacquie Colburn of DES, and she will submit a contract extension to the end of April, 2013. This will require approval by the Governor and Executive Council so is not yet a done deal. Dave then passed out a proposed schedule to meet the anticipated new deadline. This calls for completion of the Resources section and Laws/Regulations/MP sections in December. Two public meetings are scheduled in January, one to discuss present and anticipated problems and the other to discuss recommendations and implementation. The draft plan is to be

reviewed at the February 26 PRLAC meeting and the final plan adopted at the March 26 meeting. PRLAC members agreed with the schedule although it will still be a challenge to complete everything by the end of April. Members were asked to provide Dave with the names of any stakeholders who might wish to review and comment on various sections of the management plan as they become available.

Management Plan – Maps:

Dave passed out a series of maps he has been working on. The first two had been shared with members earlier and show land use and land cover in 2001 and the same for 2011. The other maps show habitat types, habitat quality/conservation land, and water resources. Members offered a number of suggestions for improving the clarity of the maps and for adding information (names of large lakes, all highways, points of interest, etc.). After all of the maps had been reviewed, several members expressed the opinion that taken together the amount of information was overwhelming and the maps should be tied more closely to the text of the plan. It was agreed that the land use/land cover maps should be retained since they were included in the old plan but the need for the other maps was questioned. The consensus seemed to be that a simpler map that showed the points of interest mentioned in the plan (launch points, golf courses, dams, recreation areas, etc.) might be more useful.

Management Plan – Text:

The rest of the meeting was devoted to editing the text of those parts of the "Resources" section of the plan which had not been previously reviewed by the members. The draft text had been emailed to members and they had been asked to review the material before the meeting. Members were well-prepared and made numerous suggestions which Dave recorded and will incorporate into the next draft of this section.

Adjournment:

Jane Kellogg made a motion seconded by Dan Stack to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Paradis Secretary