



Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 25th 2022; 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Attending in person: Bill Bolton (Chair), Lisa Doner (scribe), Barry Draper, Carl Lehner, Max Stamp, Neil McIver, Judy Faran (V. Chair), Suellen Skinner, Sherrill Howard, Tyson Morrill, Kathleen DeWolfe

Attending via zoom: Katri Gurney, Myrtle Lewis

1. Motion to accept Nov 2021 minutes as amended (Lisa); second (Judy). All in favor.
2. Update from Tracie Sales regarding our Pemi River Corridor Management Plan - \$15,000 granted to PRLAC, to be awarded later this spring, with \$500 + \$1500 for data collection set aside for North Country Council. Move to set aside that \$2000 from date of implementation (Judy), second (Neil). All in favor.
3. Permit Applications:
 - a. NHDES Shoreland Permit rec'd 12/15/21: Construction of a single family home, decks, porches, driveway and associated drainage structures; South Peak Road, Lincoln. Discussion about jurisdiction for East Branch of the Pemi. Determined it isn't our purview – Tracey has already handled it.
 - b. File Number 2021-03780 (rec'd 1/3/22): Eversource Energy STATUTORY PERMIT BY NOTIFICATION – earlier request withdrawn by Eversource after DES requested more info. Changed to permit by notification. Deadline for comment occurred between our meetings (Jan 13 deadline). Barry shared a photo of the work.
 - c. File Number 2021-03817: (rec'd 1/3/22): Eversource Energy STATUTORY PERMIT BY NOTIFICATION; Vegetation maintenance within right-of-way. The effective date of this complete notification is 12/30/2021. Comment period ended.
 - d. NHDES Shoreland Permit Application # 00134 (rec'd 1/20/22) Eversource Energy STATUTORY PERMIT BY NOTIFICATION; Routine maintenance and structure replacement – Plymouth, Alex Ray's property, asking for ROW access to replace 2 poles near wastewater treatment plant. No other discussion.
 - e. NHDES Wetlands Permit: Dredge and Fill application (rec'd 1/21/22) DOT Bridge maintenance along NH Route 3 in the town of Campton – over Bog Brook. No discussion.

Tyson Morrill - discussed the Merrimack River Watershed Council- U.S. Forest Service collaboration effort to boost climate resilience and drinking water protection along riverbanks in the Merrimack valley. Landscape scale restoration targeting riparian buffer, erosion and bank stabilization. Includes invasive plant removal, tree planting. Concord rezoned riparian buffer to be 100' from river edge. Getting word out to private land owners. Looking for areas at risk using GIS but word of mouth helpful. Funding is to install up to 10,000 trees, with 4500 trees in NH (rest in MA). No set minimum size of area. Types of trees are determined based on local presence. End of grant is May 2024, planting ends after 2023. Work will include oxbow area in Holderness and Plymouth (White Mt. Country Club land). Can use live stakes (willow, etc) on steep slopes. Tyson can do the contact with any landowners whose properties are ID'd. Will determine the number of trees based on need.

Bridgewater - just north of Jellystone Campground chronic snow dumping over steep slope off edge of road into river. How to stop? Trees would be too close to slope edge. Swale or guardrail. Tyson suggested that another group in the Watershed Council might be able to help with this. John Martin's (forester) land in Bridgewater - past pesticide treatment. RMI area and nearby

brook. Jellystone Adventure Campground (new owner). Possibly the condos in Ashland across from the Mike Ahern bank stabilization project.

Other suggestions: Campton - private properties might be interested. Confluence of Beebe River in Campton a possibility. From Crossover Bridge and southward along the Pemi. Part of Benton Campground. Sandpit area near Campton Town offices (Pike Industries). Also in Campton, where horse farm abuts the river just off Exit 49.

Thornton - can do a survey to assess need for bank stabilization. Myrtle will send a letter to the Thornton BOS as a heads-up. Owl's Nest might be interested.

Discussion ended 7:74 pm.

Other: New Hampton Municipal Landfill – DES requested a revised closure plan. Paige's report back about what to test is still pending (suggested at Dec meeting).

4. Legislative Tracking Sheet and bills of concern:
 - a. Right to Know law affecting quorums and remote meetings. Could we parrot reality to allow zoom attendance?
 - b. Cyanobacteria in rivers and lakes.
5. Other items: Plymouth redoing the stormwater, sewage and water lines on South Main St. Railroad Square area. Alex Ray offered to donate land for a stormwater retention pond between Rte 3 and the railroad; better idea than straight dumping. Town has a \$1.4 million grant, Plymouth Village Water & Sewer District has \$3.0 million grant for this work. No permit request yet. PRLAC will get involved after permit request.
6. Bill meeting with Paige next week to discuss her role and funding by us. Possible role as grant writer. Led to funding for update of management plan (\$15,000). What other grants would we want her pursue? ARM applications open Feb 1, due May 31. LRPC generally loses money in it's work with PRLAC (we don't fully compensate their time). For now, Paige will attend bimonthly. Cost to town's in PRLAC should be raised. Also needed to cover water monitoring. Possible ask to Eversource; worry about bias if we accept funds from them. Meredith Bank helped support water monitoring equipment.

Discussion about our role as advisory, not an action group. Why do we need money? We do PR and outreach to towns, planning commissions around our management plan.

Includes protecting source water. Ie Casella Dalton deal with proposed landfill next to a protected lake (Forest Lake). Plymouth, among many other town, sends waste into northern NH. Dalton is between Littleton and Wakefield. Out of state waste is rapidly filling existing landfill areas. DES cannot prohibit this (considered out-of-state commerce).

Campgrounds submitting many new permits. There is an RSA specific to campground sanitation regulation. Ashland warrant article for town to adopt this RSA. Existing Pemi and Squam R. overlay districts prevent development within 250 ft of river. Campton interested in this. Ordinance for accessory dwellings, tiny homes, yurts, etc. Thornton interested – example of Remington Rd new build with leach field under ROW for road.

7. **Elections in April.** Bill wants to step down as Chair. Judy (v. chair) willing to become Chair. Kathleen moved to nominate Judy as new Chair. Second by Neil. No opposition. But we still need to officially vote on this in April. Myrtle offered to be secretary/scribe of minutes. Dave has been treasurer, asking towns for support. Lisa said she could do this.

8. Motion to Adjourn by Sherrill. Suellen second. All approved. 8:32 pm