

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee
May 31, 2011 at Boyd Hall
Plymouth, New Hampshire

Minutes

Members Present:

Chairman Max Stamp (Bristol); Dan Paradis (Bristol); Carl Lehner (Holderness); Mike O'Donnell (Holderness); Barry Draper (New Hampton); Jane Kellogg (Campton); Fred Gunter (Thornton)

Also Present:

Dave Jeffers (LRPC); Bob Ward (Sanbornton Town Planner)

Call to Order:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM after some difficulty obtaining access to the building.

Approval of Minutes:

After Max summarized the major topics of the January 25, February 22 and March 29, 2011 meetings, Carl Lehner made a motion seconded by Fred Gunter to approve the minutes of those meetings as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report:

Dave Jeffers reported that \$200 had been received from Campton in the first quarter of 2011, with \$78.45 charged against the account for four hours of time. The status of several other towns was reviewed and is as follows:

Holderness	\$200 received on May 1, 2011.
Thornton	Article requesting \$200 did not make it to the warrant despite a request by Fred Gunter
Bristol	Contribution included in budget and is expected.
New Hampton	Contribution expected.
Bridgewater	Nothing received; may need a reminder.

In response to a question from Bob Ward, Max explained that we asked each corridor town to contribute \$200 annually, but the towns vary in the way they handle the request.

Meeting Space:

Jane Kellogg said that she was told Room 001 in Boyd Hall is reserved for us through July. Our request for next year is pending approval. Demand for use of this space increases every year.

Status of Legislation:

Max passed out a handout he had prepared showing the water resources staffing changes expected at DES under both the House and Senate funding bills. The House bill would abolish 4 ½ rivers-related positions, while the Senate bill (SB154) would reduce the 4 ½ positions to 2 ½. The future of the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (CSPA) is also in question. Although the Senate bill would weaken the protections of the current act, it would continue funding the program, which is an inducement for DES support. A new complication is a House Finance Committee amendment which would repeal the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) in the bill which extends funding for CSPA. This makes for a frustrating choice for legislators who would like to support both CSPA and RGGI. In response to a question from Bob Ward about what PRLAC would do if CSPA were terminated, Max suggested we would have to revert to encouraging local action as we did when the Pemi was not included in the CSPA.

Bristol/New Hampton Watershed Planning:

Dave Jeffers explained that this assistance to the towns of Bristol and New Hampton is the last phase of work funded by a 604b grant from DES. Dave has met with the planning boards and conservation commissions from both towns and has tried to be responsive to their needs. New Hampton's interest is focused on wetlands protection, especially in terms of public education and outreach. Specifics they have asked for include a matrix comparing the wetlands protections in New Hampton with those in adjacent towns, maps of their wetlands and those of neighbors, and help in refining educational materials. The Bristol Planning Board at first asked for some help reconciling protections offered for Newfound Lake with those for the Pemi. In discussing the matrices Dave developed, the Board came to the conclusion that the differences were probably warranted due to historical differences in the way the areas (and the regulations) developed. The focus then shifted to the Master Plan revision Bristol is about to undertake, and the Board asked Dave to review the current document to see if it provides an adequate basis for the watershed protection regulations in the zoning article. The project is

scheduled to be completed in June.

Management Plan Update:

Dave Jeffers passed out an updated version of the list of tasks LRPC is scheduled to perform to assist PRLAC in revising its Management Plan and spent some time in going over those that involve PRLAC directly through the end of this year. This is another project involving 604b grant money and is projected to take about 1 ½ years to complete. Hew also shared the feedback provided by North Country Council staff on river corridor issues and the Management Plan Update from meetings with the towns of Franconia and Thornton.

Max then directed attention to a list of anticipated water quality/quantity issues over the next decade which he had prepared as a basis for discussion, and some preliminary discussion of these issues took place. There was general agreement that the issues identified were significant. Dan Paradis pointed out that the list probably should be expanded to include things which may be concerns even though they might not affect water quality/quantity directly. Examples would include river access and littering. Max suggested that the best way to refine the list might be with a special meeting in the next few weeks, and he promised to follow up on this in the next few weeks.

Adjournment:

Fred Gunter made a motion seconded by Carl Lehner to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Paradis
Secretary