



Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee (PRLAC) Meeting minutes - April 27, 2021 7:00-9:00 pm

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81850808281?pwd=VWFNK3ptRUNRbW1NaFZsVjRlZkdYZz09>

Meeting ID: 818 5080 8281, Passcode: 674564

Attendees: Bill Bolton, Kathleen DeWolf, David Katz, Judy Faran, Barry Draper, David J., Richard LaFlamme, Carl Lehner, Suellen, Myrtle Lewis, Neil Mclver, Sherril Howard, Janet Lucas, Max Stamp, David Jeffers, Lisa Doner, Guests: Barry Allen, Pat Schlesinger

Scribe: Lisa Doner

Agenda: *annotated with minutes*

1. Call to order and Introduction of attendees

2. Approval of minutes from our March 30, 2021 meeting

Discussion of minutes – corrections:

3a towns of Holderness and Plymouth, not Rumney

3c they, not the

Other discussion – address for White Mt Trails Collective (Ashland), should we include references to protected species in our notes? Concern about collectors. Minutes approved at modified – Max Stamp moved, Sherril Howard second. All ayes except Barry Draper, Sherrill Howard and Suellen abstained due to absence

3. Nominations for the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Lisa Doner nominated (volunteered) to be secretary. Bill Bolton, Chair; Myrtle Lewis Vice-Chair; David Jeffers, Treasurer - single Vote, cast by Bill Bolton.

4. LRPC Planner response to the possibility of requiring municipalities to incorporate a PRLAC overlay with PRLAC sign-off (38 minutes of discussion):

Discussion about methods for involving PRLAC in zoning amendment decisions. Planning Board could amend zoning ordinances to include a PRLAC recommendation in the approval process for an overlay district (river abutters). North Country Council could help Thornton and Campton with this. Use Master Plan vision and land use sections for rationale. Zoning ordinances tailored to meet Master Plan goals.

Potential to use steep slope ordinances instead; Ashland has planning language around steep slopes. Pages 26-27 of the PRLAC Strag. Plan includes steep slopes ordinance with minimum set-back of 200 ft (Bristol and Ashland have 100 ft setbacks). Erodability is a key issue – buildings on bedrock (ledge) are unlikely to experience structure collapse from river action. Hazard of landslide prone slopes is not considered in zoning – not an existing State regulation.

Discussion about motivations for towns to modify zoning language: less expensive to stop development than to repair infrastructure damage later. Naturalness (wild&scenic) aspects of river is a large draw for river tourism and residents. Protect river, protect property, regional impacts and value. Wellhead protection areas having development limits; mimic that concept.

5. VRAP is back! Schedule May 11 to end of Aug/early Sep; 8-10:30 am. Instruments ready. Volunteers: Bill, Janet, Myrtle, Neil, Tyson, Suellen, Barry D.

6. Discussion of open issue: Mooney-Clark maintenance authority: Access remains unclear. VRAP site. Waiting for attorney opinion. Barry Allen thanked PRLAC for efforts in making progress on the issue of maintenance at Mooney Point Landing.

7. Permit Applications: No new permit applications, but review of DES's response to our report on the 2021-00531 wetlands permit application for bank stabilization (Glove Hollow Tree Farm): received responses from Kevin French (surveyor) and DES. Site work is permitted.

8. DES approval of Owl's Nest to temporarily withdraw water from the Pemigewasset River in Campton to fill a 37 million gallon man-made lined recreation pond: Discussion about water withdrawals for the pond. Topping off not allowed, one fill only. Limits on water withdrawal rates based on river levels/drought status.

9. Regarding review of future permit applications, we should discuss: **Tabled due to time constraints.**

- a. Researching RSA's and agency rules to back up potential violations we observed
- b. Including town Selectboards, Planning Boards and Conservation Commissions as a cc in our response to make sure they are aware of our concerns for issues, especially for ones that don't pertain to the laws.
- c. Pursuing legislation for egregious issues, not addressed by law

10. 2021 Drinking Water Source Protection Conference in May:

This is the Water Conference that PSU used to run. May 19 & 20. Contact Tracey Sales at DES \$35 fee.

11. Other items...

James Quinn email to Campton Town Admin referred to PRLAC: 14 Canoe Run Drive, Campton – bank erosion after bridge repair. Site visit planned: Sherill, Janet, Mytle.

Thornton Cons Comm interested in mimicking the Lake Smart program for river stewardship by residents. Dave Jeffers knows of some lake type prototypes. Tyson – SLA partnered with Lake Smart. Dave will ask Tracey Sales about Lakes & River coordination for the State.

Friends of the Pemi activity summary – email from Ken Evans to Bill Bolton re west side of Livermore Falls. \$150,000 funds available for work, seeking more. Parking Lot development – land now purchased. Tree cut planned. Kiosk planned. Safe trail past mill to viewing site overlooking the falls.

May 10 Plymouth Selectboard discussion about PFAS in biosolids. Related to RMI distribution.

New State of NH Office of State Initiatives (was Planning & Zoning) workshop May 15, 9 am-12 pm. Free. Training @osi.nh.gov

Concern about a sand/salt pile off Langdon St Plymouth near the lower Speare Hospital parking area. Seems to be killing a willow. Leaching into stream that drains the hospital grounds and eventually end up in the Pemi via Fox Pond Brook.

Reappointments needed: Lisa Doner. Request select board for appointment.

Motion to adjourn – Barry D. Second: Sherill. Adjourned 9:01 pm