

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

September 24, 2019 at Pease Public Library

Plymouth, NH

Members present:

Bill Bolton (Plymouth), Judy Faran (Bridgewater), Russ Brummer (New Hampton), Barry Draper (New Hampton), Max Stamp (Bristol), Richard LaFlamme (Bristol), Kathleen DeWolfe (Ashland), Carl Lehner (Holderness), Mike O'Donnell (Holderness), Dan Boynton (Campton)

1. **Meeting called to order by B. Bolton at 7:03 PM.**
2. Approval of minutes from our August 27, 2019 meeting. Motion to approve by Kathleen, seconded by Richard, all approved. Max, Richard and Dan abstained.
3. VRAP water testing
  - a. Results this year are reported in a variety of ways to DES. Next year, we will try to maintain the completed forms in our possession and text or email scans of the forms to DES
  - b. Demonstration to New Hampton School students. R. Brummer reported on PRLAC members M. Stamp and B. Draper volunteering to teach his IB ESS class and IB Biology class about PRLAC's role in river conservation and the importance of water testing (They were AMAZING). R. Brummer will look into posting the pictures on the DES website.
4. Permit Applications
  - a. M. Stamp reported on what repairs were happening at Bristol Dam. They will go down 4 more feet (currently down about 7 feet). No information on when they will be recharging but there was talk about the first week of October.
  - b. NHDES File Number: 190816-154 Alteration of Terrain Permit Application for F A Crane Holdings; Proposed Maintenance Facility
    - i. Neal McIver visited the site and reported the site had sandy soil. Highly drained.
    - ii. B. Bolton and D. Boynton will plan a second visit to the site for more details and photos.
  - c. Follow-up with DES on their permit that was awarded to the property owner on File Number 2019-01588; Application Type: SHORELAND APPLICATION2728 River Road Bridgewater
    - i. J. Faran reports that logging activity is going on across the street of 2729 River Road. A neighbor is concerned about drainage/erosion. Discussion centered on determining if the activity was within our ¼ mile jurisdiction. J. Fagan will follow up by asking the town of Bridgewater NH.
  - d. Thornton: Railroad crossing request. B. Bolton reported we are waiting for a response from DOT.
  - e. DES Notification of Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Application for Plymouth Village Water & Sewer District

- i. B. Bolton reports that the permit application is still outstanding. Figures not to hear from them until late fall.
  - f. Ambrose Brother gravel pit at Bridgewater (expanding into Plymouth). B. Bolton is writing report and will send it in
    - i. They are diverting any runoff that runs toward the Pemi back into the site
    - ii. J. Faran reports they have protocol to deal with runoff from estivation.
    - iii. B. Bolton had a discussion about invasive species with them.
- 5. DES Questionnaire
  - a. The majority of present PRLAC members completed it
  - b. Some members did not finish (due to length)
  - c. Some members felt it was redundant but the overall opinion was the questionnaire positive.
- 6. Funding
  - a. 604(b) Water Quality Planning – Management Plan update
    - i. The Letter of Intent has been sent.
  - b. Letter to Communities - Administrative Funding
    - i. B. Bolton reports that D. Jeffers will send out payment requests to all towns in the PRLAC catchment area
    - ii. M. Stamp and B. Draper will go to the Bristol Budget Committee to petition for 2020 PRLAC funds.
    - iii. B. Draper contacted Town Administer and Conservation Committee. They did not receive the first letter requesting 2020 PRLAC funds and so requested a second letter. B. Bolton will investigate the status of the request and send a second letter if needed.
- 7. R. Brummer reported that New Hampton Students participate in a Service Learning Day. PRLAC reps should contact Jacque Little (or R. Brummer) if they have river cleaning projects. Also if the river is going to be lowered at this time of year, New Hampton School should be contacted for river cleanup.
- 8. Reminder that SPNHF is celebrating the defeating of Northern Pass at The Rocks in Bethlehem on Oct 13, 1:00 to 4:00in the afternoon. Sign up at the SPNHF website.
- 9. DOT public official meeting of the refurbishing of the Union Bridge. To start in 2022. Looking for input. Discussing: whether it would be one (one lane closed) or two seasons (both lanes closed), the detour route (if both lanes are closed) was discussed. Can go to the DOT website for more information. Project # 24904. Bridge # 076/080.
- 10. B. Draper reported that DES, or possible some other agency or private individual treated the Pemi river with a defoliant around 9/17. His neighbors that lived on the river had signs on their road warning of an impending treatment. The signs reportedly stated that the defoliant was not harmful, but did warned people not to swim for a day or eat fish from the river. He wanted to ask if any PRLAC members had any information. B. Draper will investigate and report during the next meeting.
- 11. **Adjourn** Motion to adjourn: J. Faran Seconded: K. DeWolfe. All voted to adjourn. 8:25 PM.