

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

June 26, 2018 at Pease Public Library

Plymouth, NH

Members Present:

Bill Bolton, Chair (Plymouth), Max Stamp (Bristol), Barry Draper (New Hampton), Mike O'Donnell (Holderness), Carl Lehner (Holderness), Russ Brummer (New Hampton), Kathleen DeWolfe (Ashland).

Also Present:

Dave Jeffers - LRPC
Pat Schlesinger (New Hampton)
John Gallagher (Thornton)
Taylor Cook (Thornton)

Call to Order - 7:01 p.m. by Bill Bolton, Chair

1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes were reviewed. Two spelling changes. Carl Lehner motioned to accept with corrections. Max Stamp seconded. All approved.

2. Discussion raised by Dave Jeffers: Updating town aquifer/ groundwater protection ordinance.

In reference to June 19 email: LRPC has grants from DES for towns to develop or update ordinances for groundwater/ aquifer protection plan and to assess septic systems in areas that may impact water quality. These grants cover both river and lake bodies of water.

Step 1 is to identify specific areas for protection.

Define activities permitted or not permitted over aquifers (especially municipal water supplies).

Step 2 is septic system assessment. Find missing permits using DES databases.

Ashland has its ordinance which was approved and passed by the town in 2017.

Planning Boards are where the process starts. Dave recommended PRLAC members contact their Planning Board members with this information. There is a time limit for PRLAC members -- before the grants go public.

3. Dave Jeffers: USDA grant proposal to provide assistance to support PRLAC.

Grant was denied by USDA. They have other priorities.

4. Permit Applications

Ashland Water and Sewer submitted plans to NH DES to construct a Headworks and Septage Receiving Facility at its Wastewater Treatment Facility. The proposal was granted and accepted by the town.

Wetlands Permit by Notification for a seasonal dock in Franklin. PRLAC reviewed the permit.

The Lincoln Riverfront Park comments that were made to Tracie Sales at our May 29 meeting have been forwarded to NH DES. These comments are included in the formal report and are part of the review process. We appreciate Tracie's work.

Sleepy Hollow Lane residence in Thornton: From the discussion, Bill Bolton, chair, agreed to write a letter to the Select Board in Thornton and/or Campton to outline our concerns.

Owl's Nest permit has been approved by NH DES.

5. Membership:

Appointment of Bristol representative, Max Stamp by DES Commissioner, Robert Scott

Appointment of Holderness representative, Carl Lehner by DES Commissioner

Appointment of New Hampton representative, Barry Draper by DES Commissioner

John Gallagher of Thornton indicated that he would like to seek appointment to PRLAC, and he will inform the Thornton Select Board of his intentions

6. Water Testing. Max Stamp.

Max reported on the latest water testing. Max, Barry and Russ did testing at both the Southern and Northern sites in June. We need volunteers for the July 10 Northern test sites. Bill Bolton and John Gallagher said they could cover this date. Andrea Hansen of DES will also help in training and sampling.

July 10 is the test date for E. coli in addition to the regular tests. There are four more testing dates to be covered this season. Stay tuned.

7. Standing Item: Follow-up of Section 3 of the 2013 Pemigewasset River Corridor Management Plan.

Dave Jeffers reported the discussion and follow-through with the Groundwater/acquifer Protection Plan and Sewage Assessment addresses this article. Further discussion was tabled.

8. Other Business:

John Gallagher of Thornton reported the boat ramp damaged by rocks during flooding is under DOT jurisdiction. DOT has put action for their clearing the ramp on hold.

Pat Schlesinger of New Hampton expressed her appreciation to PRLAC for their ongoing work and preservation of the Pemigewasset Watershed.

Mike O'Donnell asked if there were any updates on a final document of the Northern Pass Project. After short discussion we decided to look into what constituted a "final document".

9. Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Mike O'Donnell seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Draper, New Hampton Representative