

## **Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting Approved Notes**

Haverhill, Bath, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Bethlehem, Carroll, and Coos County

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Members in Attendance: Bill Harris (Haverhill); Rick Walling (Bath); Steve Jesseman (Lisbon); Jessica Willis, Connie McDade (Littleton); Marilyn Johnson (Bethlehem); Leslie Bergum (Carroll)

Members Absent: Michael King (Haverhill); Errol Peters (Landaff); Charlie Ryan (Littleton); Karen Pearson (Bethlehem); Joan Karpf, Linda Dowling (Carroll), Michael Waddell, John Scarinza (Coos County)

### **Review and Approval of January Minutes** (February Meeting canceled due to snowstorm)

Vice Chairman Rick Walling opened the meeting at the North Country Council in Bethlehem at 4:35 p.m., chairing the meeting in place of Chairman Charlie Ryan, who sustained an injury on the ice. There was not a quorum of 8 members present so voting could not take place. The approval of the minutes was postponed until April. The members held a non-business meeting.

### **Correspondence**

#### 1. Announcements and Letters

- Bethlehem Seep Restoration Report by Sanborn, Head & Associates was passed around the table by Rick for members to read it.
- Rick informed the members about the notice received about the 2011 Governor's Award/Outstanding Volunteer Manager.
- The Value of Green Infrastructure Guide sent by Steve Couture was discussed. Members suggested this information be provided to each town's Energy Committee.
- Charlie made arrangements with Steve Couture to have 13 Volunteer Service Award pins sent to LAC. He will hand them out, during the April meeting.

#### 2. Incoming Permit Applications (comments sent)

Rick provided the members with an update on the following projects. Charlie sent LAC's comments to the DES by their due dates in February.

- Bethlehem Wetland Permit Application File #2011-00082  
Tax Map 406/17 Minor Impact Dredge & Fill  
Christopher Crow- Route 116 Facility Equipment Transfer Area
- Carroll Wetlands Permit Application File #2011-00273  
Mt. Washington Hotel Bridge Replacement Project #10268 (A notice to recipient of major impact NH Wetlands Permit said that no work could be done until project has been reviewed and approved by the U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers)

#### 3. Incoming State of NH Inter-Department Communication 2/10/11

(From NHDOT, Charles H. Hood Administrator, regarding a final fix to temporary work)

- Federal Aid Project #16024 Wetlands Plan has been amended for NHDOT Fowler Brook location on Route 116 Littleton/Bethlehem Town line. Emergency Authorization File #2009-2588 was previously reviewed by LAC for DOT's temporary fix to stabilize twin RCPs.

Connie told members that the Fowler Brook tributary arises in a wetland area off Mann's Hill Road. Permanent remediation needs to be done to prevent future problems. Rick reported that the amended plans would impact an additional 20 sq. ft. due to minor adjustment in the 2009 plans. Rick raised several important points; those issues had been addressed in the 2009 application. Await receipt of NHDES application for new permit.

4. The NHDES VRAP 2010 Water Quality Report (has been mailed out; also available online)

Leslie said that she would be completing the form for the 2011 Group Plan to indicate the existing stations the VRAP group intends to monitor, any additional locations, sampling schedule, and wish list. Marilyn and Steve said they would try to help out those doing the testing this season. Refresher course will be scheduled this spring.

### **Old Business**

1. Members' Terms (await term renewals for Charlie and Connie by Littleton BOS; they've been fulfilling their duties on a month by month basis)
2. Members' Volunteer Hours (Leslie made up spread sheets to facilitate record keeping for DES Biennial Report; Jessica volunteered to collect the monthly data from the members.)
3. Workshop 2010 List (handed out for members to double check conferences they attended)
4. LAC 2010 Annual Report was sent to the NHDES on 2/14/11. Members received a copy.
5. Other (Bill inquired if anyone could provide an update about Highland Croft. No one had heard anything recently about the status of the project.)

### **New Business**

1. The Municipal EcoLink and Upcoming Conferences (details provided by Rick)
  - UNH Cooperative Extension Workshop/Saving Special Places in Sutton on April 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - The NH Water and Watershed Conference at PSU on 3/25 & 3/26.
2. LAC Member to Serve as Member of Shoreland Advisory Committee

Leslie said she has been appointed by Governor Lynch to serve as a Member of the Shoreland Advisory Committee established by HB1462 in 2010. The committee will be comprised of 20 members, 10 of whom own property within the protected shoreland. Leslie will serve as one of the two representatives for rivers designated under RSA 483. Congratulations extended to Leslie; Her 1<sup>st</sup> committee meeting will take place on 3/25.
3. Water Management-Climate's Impact on the Hydrological Cycle on January 26<sup>th</sup> @ Lyndon State College (Connie attended lecture by Professor Han Schreier about imbalance in the hydrological cycle; need to change the way water is managed by water conservation, water source protection, and stormwater management. The USGS, NHDES, and NHGS study assessed why groundwater levels measured in wells constructed in bedrock aquifers declined by over 13 feet on average from 1984 to 2006 (reference: the Littleton Courier)
4. Legislative Alerts (HB1462, HB470, HB27, 44, & 149, HB44, 336, & 555, SB19, 20, & 21, SB154, and SB32 information was made available to the members) Rick led discussion on SB154 and SB32. Members postponed making final comment on what to support and not support in SB154 until further info received. No concern was expressed about SB32.

### **Adjournment**

Marilyn made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Steve. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Connie McDade*

[Next Meeting Takes Place on Wednesday, April 6](#)