

**Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting Approved Minutes**  
Haverhill, Bath, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Bethlehem, Carroll, and Coos County  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

Members in Attendance: Michael King, Bill Harris (Haverhill); Errol Peters (Landaff); Steve Jesseman (Lisbon); Charlie Ryan, Jessica Willis, Connie McDade (Littleton); Marilyn Johnson (Bethlehem); Leslie Bergum, Joan Karpf, Linda Dowling (Carroll)

Members Absent: Rick Walling (Bath); Michael Waddell, John Scarinza (Coos County)

Members of Public in Attendance: Bill Dowling (Carroll)

Guests in Attendance: Nicholas Fiore, P.E., Engineering Ventures, PC

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Ryan opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m. at the North Country Council in Bethlehem. Michael made the motion to approve the minutes of January and the meeting notes of March; seconded by Steve. Passed.

**Guest Presentation (AHEAD Lisbon Inn Project)**

Invited Guest Nik Fiore gave details about the proposal for remediation to deal with the erosion problem and riverbank failure caused by poor quality fill and bank steepness on the land between the Lisbon Inn and the Ammonoosuc River. Site work would reduce the bank steepness from 1:1 to 2:1. The plan is to excavate up to 19.5 ft. of degraded fill and install an 18' gabion wall to prevent slope creep. Further reduction in erosion from runoff would be achieved by installation of catch basins and a storm water collection unit. Maintenance would require periodic vacuuming of the solids from the filters. The project will require both Shoreland and Wetland Permits. LAC members talked about erosion control measures being in place during the project, careful monitoring of machinery in use, disposal of the excavated debris and soil off-site by approved means, and re-vegetation, as needed. Members expressed their support for the project.

**Announcements and Letters**

1. Charlie reported Tara has set up a web page, informing the public about the corridor management plan in progress and providing access to Nicholas Miller's town presentations of the slides and maps of the fluvial geomorphic study.  
<http://www.nccouncil.org/projects.php>
2. Karen Pearson resigned due to a conflict in her work schedule and LAC's meeting time. Karen was given names of officials, who need to receive her letter of resignation and how to contact them. Marilyn will speak with the Bethlehem BOS about a new member.
3. Charlie said that he spoke with Lisbon Town Manager Regan Pride about nominating a new member to replace nominated candidate Duncan McKee, who moved away before being able to serve as a member.
4. Charlie talked about HB1 and got input from the members, who were in accord on sending a letter from LAC to Senate President Bragdon with copies to Senators Gallus and Forrester. Charlie said he'd put a letter together and get it in the mail right away.
5. Charlie said he received Littleton's check in payment for 2010 annual contribution. He had to leave the meeting to be elsewhere so he was turning the meeting over to Connie to chair, whereas Vice Chair Rick (excused absence) could not be present to cover for him. Joan offered to take the minutes for the remainder of the meeting to help Connie.

6. Election of Officers was introduced before Charlie's departure. Charlie said he and Rick would be willing to serve again in their respective roles as Chair and Vice Chair. Leslie made the motion to re-elect the current slate of officers for 2011-2012, seconded by Bill. Discussion followed, asking if anyone else is interested in serving, as an officer. Michael recommended next year before elections we elect a nominating committee. All were in favor of this suggestion. Errol made the motion for a 3-member nomination committee created no later than December of this year, seconded by Michael. Passed unanimously. Re-election of the present officers passed by unanimous vote: Charlie Ryan, Chairman; Rick Walling, Vice Chairman; Connie McDade, Secretary; and Michael King, Treasurer.
7. Leslie reported on the ice dam and major rerouting of the Ammonoosuc River with flooding of MWR Golf Club House, maintenance bldg., and several golf course holes on 3/07/11 that brought concern about chemicals, diesel, and gasoline on the premises. Water analysis by DES was done at several locations and Woodsville W&L facility was shutdown for 24 hrs. Leslie said that test results came back as ND (none detected). Bill said public relations are important, regarding the effects of ice dams on towns downstream.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Michael wants to send out new town letters. He will put together a new letter for submission and bring it to the next meeting. Linda made the motion that the town dues remain at \$50, seconded by Marilyn. Passed. Leslie made the motion to give some money to the VRAP members for supplies and expenses. Motion was tabled for now.

### **Incoming Permit Applications**

1. Inter-communication memo received from NHDOT/Littleton Route 116 Fowler Brook Dredge & Fill, new file number issued #2010-16024 for amended plans with twin culvert permanent remediation (temporary emergency repairs done 2009). Permanent fix to increase impact by 20 sq. ft. was discussed at 3/02/11 meeting. Project is not within 1/4 mile of the river. Expect to receive wetland permit information from the DES. No further information received to date.
2. Lisbon NHDOT Project #16184 US 302 project in 1/4/mile of the river, however work will not take place by the river. Request from NHDOT for input on environmental issues and concerns about natural resources received 3/03/11. Subcommittee of Errol, Steve, Rick and Connie put a letter together for Charlie's approval and signature 3/09/11.
3. Bath Covered Bridge NHDOT Project #14439, Hoyle Tanner Project #902504, Federal Project #X-A000 (901) request for input on environmental concerns received 3/08/11. Invasive Japanese Knotweed above and below the bridge is a factor. Leslie asked that Rick comment on it. Errol said project would entail a major overhaul of the bridge so ice jams is an issue and need to make sure they don't contaminate the water, while doing the project. Mike raised the issue of bank erosion. Errol said there is a lot of mud behind the dam. Steve and Errol volunteered to work with Rick to put LAC's comments together.
4. Littleton Shoreland Application File #2011-00358 for Magdalena Fontanez at 137 Redington Street to re-establish lawn was received 3/10/11. Charlie said the permit had already been granted, when he received the application.
5. Lisbon Inn Ahead Project's Erosion Riverbank Failure (see guest presentation above) Charlie to send LAC's comments, after copies of DES permit application(s) received.

## **Old Business**

1. Town Issues  
Bethlehem: Marilyn and Leslie replied to newly elected Selectman Sandy Laleme, who requested info on Ammonoosuc River water quality reports. Leslie directed her to the report provided to the public on the DES website and to Marilyn, as a resource person.
2. Legislation SB154: Leslie attended 2 meetings in past week. Committee is a diverse group. Need to get copy of draft letter “support with reform not repeal.”
3. Biennial Volunteer Hours: Jessica provided the worksheet to members for their entries.

## **New Business**

1. Workshops:
  - NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection in Concord May 10, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
  - VRAP Annual Training in Concord May 14, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
2. Members viewed poster size maps for Northern Pass Transmission (NPT), showing the locations where the proposed and alternate routes cross the Ammonoosuc River. Members asked to extend the meeting time to address their concerns. Michael said LAC should submit a letter to the DOE to show LAC is interested in the project. Connie said LAC’s issue is water quality and water quantity; we should address the water quality issues associated with the installation of the towers. Errol said bank erosion and runoff in the watershed are of concern, when the towers are set in the ground. Leslie made the motion that we weigh in, showing our concerns on the river and watershed. Michael seconded Leslie’s motion. Members voted unanimously in favor of LAC sending a letter to Brian Mills, Senior Planning Advisor at the U.S. Department of Energy. Leslie and Connie volunteered to write it; they were asked to get the letter out ASAP. Connie was advised to sign the letter per pro on behalf of LAC to facilitate the process of posting the letter in the mail without delay.
3. Leslie wants to know, if any LAC members would be interested in stocking salmon fry.

## **Adjournment**

Steve made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Errol. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Connie McDade*

[Next Meeting Takes Place on Wednesday, May 4th](#)