

## **Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting Approved Minutes Haverhill, Bath, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Bethlehem, and Carroll**

Wednesday, April 7, 2010

Members in Attendance: Michael King, Bill Harris (Haverhill); Rick Walling (Bath), Errol Peters (Landaff); Charlie Ryan, Connie McDade (Littleton); Marilyn Johnson (Bethlehem); Karen Pearson (Bethlehem), Leslie Bergum (Carroll); Michael Waddell (Gorham)

Nominated Candidates in Attendance: Linda Dowling (Carroll)

Members Absent: Steve Jesseman, Duncan McKee (Lisbon); Jessica Willis (Littleton); Joan Karpf (Carroll); and John Scarinza (Jefferson), just notified he is now a member.

Members of Public in Attendance: Bill Dowling (Carroll)

Guests in Attendance: Adair Mulligan, Connecticut River Joint Commission (CRJC) Conservation Director; Rebecca Brown, Executive Director of Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT), and Tara Bamford, Planning Director of North Country Council (NCC)

### **Guest Presentation**

Charlie opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. Adair Mulligan of CRJC said that Dr. John Field of Field Geology Services plans to attend our May LAC Meeting; he'll bring the full set of erosion and flood hazard maps with him. Meeting dates will then be scheduled for Dr. Field to present this data to the boards of the river corridor towns. LAC members discussed eight potential restoration sites along the Ammonoosuc River, during their 11/04 and 12/02/2009 meetings. In December Tara Bamford of NCC led the process to help members identify which restoration project(s) should be done first. The members' decision was to place top value on water quality and habitat in selecting the site. Adair asked the members if they would be ready to identify their primary and secondary sites for the first round of the restoration projects. Rebecca Brown of ACT reported that the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust is ready to send letters to the landowners and meet with them. On behalf of highest priorities identified by LAC members, Rick made the motion to focus on the Lisbon site #6 for the initial concentrated restoration efforts with the Bath site #7 as a secondary site. Leslie seconded the motion; motion was passed by unanimous vote. Support for the project up to now has been funded by a grant from the NHDES for Watershed Assistance for High Quality Waters and the Upper Connecticut River Mitigation and Enhancement Fund of the NH Charitable Foundation. Michael King inquired about funding for the next stage of the project. The Connecticut River Joint Commission will seek funding to do the restoration part of the project. Letters of support will be needed to accompany grant application next fall.

### **Review and Approval of March Minutes**

Michael King made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Errol. Passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Michael King provided a letter draft, asking for town contributions to help fund LAC expenses. He offered to design a letterhead for Chairman Ryan and then e-mail the final letter to the members for them to add their specific town information. Michael said a

copy of the 2009 Annual LAC Report should be attached to the letter delivered to the Boards of Selectmen. The following members (Bill, Rick, Errol, Charlie, Marilyn, and Leslie) volunteered to bring the letter to their BOS. Leslie made the motion to accept the recommendations. Rick seconded the motion. Passed.

### **Correspondence and Announcements**

1. Mike Waddell was welcomed as a new member. Charlie reported that he had not heard if any of the other candidates had officially become members. Connie said she would make an inquiry.
2. There is going to be a meeting in Bath with the Chief of Police about the dredging in the Wild Ammonoosuc River. Errol said reports have come in that scuba diving gear is being used in the river.
3. Connie said we plan to go over the amended list of Management Plan Goals, during the May meeting. Tara asked if members want to have informative programs provided by guest speakers for LAC members and the public. Members supported the idea; Tara will help us work out details for this public outreach.

### **Incoming Applications**

1. Rick reported that the Town of Bath received an Emergency Authorization Verification dated March 26 for repair to the eroded riverbank stone along the edge of Abbott Road. The erosion was caused by storm events this past winter.
2. Steve Jesseman had asked to discuss his DES application for permit for a project to install a waste pipe line to an existing system, during this April meeting. He was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to accident with a table saw; it will be carried over to May's agenda.
3. Charlie said an application was in the works for replacement of anchors to the Curran Suspension Foot Bridge in Littleton. He reported that the project is now on hold because of funding. Connie inquired if there was a safety issue with postponement of the work. Charlie replied that the bridge is secure.

### **Old Business**

1. Town Issues
  - Old Town Road, Carroll  
Leslie reported the Town of Carroll has received a 90-day extension for Horizons Engineering to determine best course of action. Erosion is occurring around the culvert. Edith Tucker wrote an article about it in the Coos Democrat. Copy of article is requested, if anyone still has the newspaper.
  - Marilyn said Bethlehem passed by 1 vote an ordinance to protect the aquifer.
2. Other Town Issues
  - Mike Waddell inquired which rivers are classified as being navigable. Some are only seasonally navigable. Follow up is needed to get specific river information.

### **New Business**

1. Leslie reported on the dates and meeting places for the Atlantic Salmon Fry Distribution into the Ammonoosuc River. Volunteers are especially needed on the Wild Ammonoosuc River May 6. Leslie is helping April 30th on the Upper Ammonoosuc and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Presence of a LAC member to help with the Lower Ammonoosuc River on May 1<sup>st</sup> would be good public relations. Leslie e-mailed a chart to members of the times and places to meet as well as how to sign up.
2. Leslie announced the VRAP Annual Workshop training takes place on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Littleton Community College from 4 to 6 p.m. Just a few members have been doing the water quality testing of the entire stretch of the river, which takes them a full day. She encouraged additional members to participate.
3. Leslie informed the members about the White Mountain National Forest Timber Sale project in Crawford Notch, going from Bretton Woods Area to the AMC Highland Center. Project areas include Carroll, Crawford Purchase, and Bethlehem. It includes an area along the Base Road. Best management practices will be followed, leaving a buffer zone of 250' along the Ammonoosuc River. An Open House overview was held at AMC Highland Center on March 30<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 7 p.m. Interested parties received an overview of the Crawford Stewardship Project. Molly Fuller, WMNF District Ranger for the Pemi District, has to approve the proposal. LAC members Leslie and Marilyn attended and became informed. At this meeting all the LAC members were given the opportunity to look over the proposal. The detailed mapping depicts the different types of cuts, numbered by stands. The plan is to cut 728 acres expected to add up to about 1,162 truckloads. The profits will be allocated to the Treasury of the Federal Government with a percentage of the proceeds from the cut going back for stewardship restoration projects. Errol was asked to look the proposal over in greater detail, which he will do. Errol said that patch clear cuts have been found to have more regeneration of high quality woods take place than the thinning does. He described how logging enhances wildlife habitat. Comment period for the scoping portion of this project has passed. Mike Waddell said letters of support are always appreciated.
4. Check List for Application Review was not discussed, as a few members had to leave early.

### **Adjournment**

Marilyn made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Michael King. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Connie McDade*

[Next Meeting Takes Place on Wednesday, May 5, 2010](#)