

Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee(LAC) Work Session Notes

Haverhill, Bath, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Bethlehem, Carroll

Wednesday, January 6 ,2016

Meeting called to order: 4:35 pm at the Senior Center in Littleton.

Members in Attendance: (Haverhill) Bill Harris; (Lisbon) Steve Jesseman; (Landaff) Marilyn Booth; (Bath) Rick Walling; (Littleton), Connie McDade; (Bethlehem) Marilyn Johnson; (Carroll) Joan Karpf.

Members Absent: (Lisbon) Rosalind Page, Errol Peters ; (Littleton) Charlie Ryan: Chairman ,Chris Hodge: Vice Chairman, Jessica Willis.

Connie McDade, our Corresponding Secretary , in accordance with our bylaws, chaired the meeting in the absence of both Chair and Vice Chair.

Connie presented the Carroll representative with the old file of previous applications from that Town.

Connie informed the Committee that Chris was unable to attend due to illness but that he would like to meet next week January 13th to address the Northern Pass letter that was voted on at our last meeting. Discussion followed regarding member and room availability and required notices. Connie further shared some of Chris' ideas and concerns, regarding the project and drafted letter, as presented to her. Discussion followed. Connie also shared her suggested amendments to the present letter in response to Chris' concerns and the Committee agreed to the new amendments. Discussion followed. Bill motioned that we send the amended letter as soon as we obtain Charlie's signature and then address Chris' concerns as well as new info at our next meeting at which a new updated letter could be drafted. Steve added to the motion to have the following statement added to the end of the letter. " We will provide further comment as new additional and requested information becomes available." Marilyn Booth seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: In Jessica's absence, Connie handed out a copy of Jessica's report. The balance as of January 6, 2016 is \$1,403.35. Littleton and Bethlehem 2016 dues are included in the balance. Lisbon, Landaff will follow up on their letters and the Bath payment will come after Town budget is approved. Joan motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Rick seconded. Report was accepted.

Correspondence:

Announcements and letters

NH Rivers Council asking interest in co-hosting presentation by Dr. Field. We would be responsible to provide a no-cost venue, logistical information to NHRC and publicize the event

with local audiences. Discussion followed. Although attendance was a concern, the Committee is open to cooperating with the event. It was stated that Littleton usually has the best attendance. Location ideas included The Rocks , Littleton HS, Senior site or White Mountain School in Bethlehem. Committee also suggested we tie the presentation in with another event and include other groups such as River Walk Committee, students, ACT, Boy Scouts or Audubon. Rick will be getting more info including date of event .

Protected River signs: E-mail from Tracie Sales reminded Committee of free signs still available. Joan also reminded Committee that she still has Designated signs available for the taking. It does not include name sign or hardware.

Annual Report Copies of the Annual report have been e-mailed to the Committee for review. Connie stated that we have done reports for 8 years. Discussion followed. Rick made a motion to accept the Final Report as written . Marilyn Johnson seconded. Annual Report was approved. Annual Report can be sent to the Town Select Board.

North Country Region Grantseeker Information sessions are being held on funding opportunities in 2016 and tips on what they look for in applications. Event dates at <http://www.nhnonprofits.org/view/events-other>.

Mitigation and Enhancement Fund Review Panel Rick informed us that he now sits on the Panel which will be meeting on January 11 for a initial review of recent requests. Discussion followed regarding Grant availability.

Old Business

Content of LAC's Northern pass Letter The letter was again revisited. Discussion followed. It was clarified that we did want the letter sent, that we amended it to reflect some concerns and that we will be sending more letters as other concerns are addressed and as new info comes in.

Other

ACT will be requesting a future letter of recommendation for the Brebner property proposal.

New Business

PWAAB request for present and potential public access sites on the Ammo which will be used for the GIS-based access site maps. They are interested in informal shore bank access such as for a canoe and sufficient parking. In general, about one access site for every ten miles of River. Discussion followed. Some members expressed concerns regarding the request while others

thought the GIS site maps would be important. Committee asked to review their Town access sites for discussion at next meeting.

Rick informed the Committee of the 2016 NH Water and Watershed Conference to be held March 18th in Plymouth.

Town Issues

Bethlehem's rep , Marilyn Johnson, shared the results of the Bethlehem CC's Northern Pass Wetland Assessment by wetland expert, John Severance. She also shared the CC's letter to SEC regarding the results. E-mails of copies were sent to the Committee members. Connie shared a map of the new route.

LAC Terms expiring in 2016

Steve Jesseman, Rosalind Page and Marilyn Johnson Committee terms end this year.

Review and Approval of December Minutes: Steve motioned to accept the minutes as written. Rick seconded. Minutes were approved.

Marilyn Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rick seconded the motion.
Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:24pm

Respectfully submitted by,
Joan Karpf