

Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee -December 15, 2005, Milford Town Hall, present at meeting, Les Talarico, Diane Fitzpatrick, Rich Hart, Marshall Butterick, Doug Waitt, Kleta Dudley and Celeste Barr

Updates

Rich read letter that George had sent out to us via email discussing. need to present Watershed Management Plan to local officials. New Ipswich and Greenville are not part of NRPC and there are some issues concerning the presentation. Doug volunteered to oversee the New Ipswich presentation and assist in Greenville if needed. Rich says he needs a digital projector for the presentation.

The consensus of the group concerning the hiring of an individual to help towns to implement plan was that this might be premature. Towns should decide and prioritize goals first. There was some concern that the powers that be in towns might have issues with outsiders coming in determining what should be a priority.

Permits- There were no permits to review

Souhegan Watershed Association- there will be a meeting Jan. 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the library in Milford. The removal of the Merrimack Village Dam will be the topic. There was a suggestion that this could be a joint meeting.

Project Board- Spencer was not at the meeting and we were unable to do a through update of the project board. Doug would like to borrow it for a presentation he is doing on Dec. 30. School Board dates and deliberative session dates need to be gotten to Spencer. Kleta had a partial proof of the brochure. It looked great (if I do say so myself) Puritan Press should have a quote to Spencer this week for 1000 copies and the finished proof should be ready next week.

Local Updates

New Ipswich- Doug will be presenting an article for the town warrant. It will define a new wetland and surface water district and will require a variance instead of special exception to do a wetland crossing. Doug will email Diane and Spencer (at Les's request) his work. The intent is to provide the zoning boards and planning boards better tools in order to require cluster housing.

Greenville- Marshall had nothing to report.

Milford- There will be a ballot question as to whether to hire a consultant to look at all zoning regulations. Diane asked Doug to send the ballot question he is submitting in New Ipswich to her so their Conservation Commission can review it.

Amherst- Work has started on the update to the Master Plan. Rich Hart is the Conservation Commission's representative to the process. He is hopeful that much of the River Management Plan can be implemented.

Rich said that the Amherst Conservation Commission was working on developing a Management Plan for fields. Amherst has 75 acres of conservation land that are fields. A discussion followed on how other towns and Beaver Brook manage theirs. Les said Wilton required the people that maintained them to lime and do a soil test every 3 years. Celeste said beaver Brook required field edge maintenance. Les said they needed to be mowed after Aug. 15, annually.

Merrimack- No representatives were present.

Next meeting is Jan. 19th, in Amherst. Rich thinks it will be at the old school house.

Submitted by Kleta Dudley