

Minutes of the Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee
Milford, New Hampshire
April 17, 2008

In attendance were Diane Fitzpatrick (Milford), George May (Merrimack), Nelson Disco (Merrimack), Les Talarico (Wilton), Rich Hart (Amherst), Marshall Buttrick (Greenville), Andy Powell (Merrimack), and Kleta Dudley (New Ipswich). Guest, Charles Santos from Pilgrim Foods, Clair Lund (consultant to Pilgrim Foods) and Joe ? (Processing manager, Level II WWT operator) We never got his last name.

Meeting began at 6:30 P.M. Meeting Room, Milford Library

Approval of last meeting's minutes with a correction in Paragraph 5, changing "Pilgrim" Plastics to Pioneer Plastics.

Discussion of Greenville recycling center with Pilgrim Food Representatives

George began the meeting with a short overview for the Pilgrim Food Representative of the previous month's presentation. Pilgrim Foods is concerned over recycling plant. They feel the plant is too close to river. The people doing the recycling don't have enough experience in running a recycling station. The site is too steep. There will be an awful smell and danger of enhanced e.coli levels. Discussion followed on their concerns. We managed to get Joe to commit to joining the summer water testing program and do the site beneath the Green Bridge.

George admits the idea of a recycling center there is not exactly the best use of the site and it is decided that he will write a letter to Steve Couture and Frank Richards expressing our concerns and trying to get some definition on "dump site" and "dump area." He will also inquire what the plan is to contain trash from blowing about into the protected area.

At present, Greenville's Planning Board has approved site plan, it is now up to DES to approve. Andy Powell asked if there were any conditions to approval by the Planning Board. George will ask for a Site Plan Approval from the Greenville Planning Board. He will ask if conditions apply and if the facility will be open to the public.

Application for Permit to rehab FEET Merrill Marauder's Bridge by DOT, Merrimack

Merrill's Marauder's Bridge is a red listed bridge on Everett Turnpike. At the time of replacement, the state plans on widening the road (for eventual use of up to three lanes, only two for present use) and repainting the girders. Presently, there are bike trails beneath the bridge area on the steep side. There is also a lot of erosion.

DOT will be putting trails/walkways on both sides of river. Merrimack's Conservation Commission owns an 80 acre park just north of the bridge site. SoRLAC would like to see a park on the South side of the river and a pedestrian bridge. PSNH is amenable to the park idea. The Merrimack Conservation Commission has requested a bridge as well. Merrimack is in the process of appointing a committee to oversee the development of the town trail system. The bridge and park will require Wetlands Permits. George will write letter to DOT requesting them to pay close attention to

the suggestions of the Merrimack Conservation Commission, encouraging that they work closely together on this project.

Happenings/concerns since last meeting

Dredge and Fill permit (after the fact)-Adams St. Milford- George has gotten several calls from irate citizens about the mess here. George suggested there should be a plan to inspect on a regular basis. Conservation Commission talked to Planning Board and suggested it shouldn't have been built on as it was too wet and in the meantime there should be a plan to replant. George also suggested something be placed in deed to delineate wetlands and place some sort of restrictive language to prevent further development.

Grant request for implementation of management Plan-NRPC is writing grant application to help with implementation.

Update on River ID signs- Amherst still needs 6 River Signs for 3 river crossings.

Presidential Volunteer Service Awards, April 22 (Earth Day), Boston-Fanueil Hall, Boston. 11:00-1:00. President Bush is giving award to SoRLAC (and other designated Rivers as well.)

Celeste has taken care of submitting her and Diane's reappointment paperwork.

Other Business- Milford Planning director is soliciting someone from Planning Board to monitor wetlands sites. Instream Flow Rules are available on website George will send out website. Next will come implementation.

Local Updates-

Souhegan Watershed Association - Water monitoring program is gearing up and looking for donations and discounts on Phosphorous test. Adopt a Salmon Program has begun with Hancock Elementary release. Milford Drive- In is the most convenient place to release.

Merrimack River Watershed Council paddlers begin season this Sat. in Greenville (Apr. 19) at green bridge.

Wed. June 4th is cleanup day, site to be announced.

Souhegan Valley Land Trust-The Pot Luck that was held in Sat. April 19th was a success. There was a short film. There are a couple of large donors that are expected to sign on at any moment. Currently the organization has \$32,000 toward it's goal of \$65,000 - \$70,000. Approximately 45 people attended the event.

New Ipswich- Kleta met with Conservation Commission to discuss implementation of Souhegan River Management Plan.

Greenville- Nothing to report.

Wilton- Nothing to report

Milford- Ball fields still in planning stage. Executed Dredge and Fill.

Amherst- Working on Master Plan's "thought and vision on goals."

Merrimack- Conservation Commission working on getting out information to shoreline owners on implementation of Shoreline Protection Act that went into effect on April 1. Of particular concern were the changes in fertilizer levels (not over 2% Phosphorous and not over 50% slow release Nitrogen.) Products meeting those specifications are not on the market.. There is also a change in the 4th order streams. Selectmen can ask for exemptions.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 19, in Wilton, 7p.m. Probably at the town offices. Les will schedule and be in touch with us.

Submitted by Klea Dudley
Secretary pro tem
Edited by George May