

LMRLAC – May 22, 2008

LOWER MERRIMACK RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 22, 2008

Members:

✓ = present

- Bob Robbins (Chair) – Hudson
- ✓ Kathryn Nelson (Vice Chair) -- Nashua
- ✓ Karen Archambault (Secretary) -- Nashua
- Glenn McKibben (Treasurer) – Litchfield
- Cynthia Ruonala (Public Relations) – Nashua
- George May - Merrimack
- Jim Barnes – Hudson
- Ray Peeples – Litchfield
- Stan Kazlouskas – Hudson

Associate Members:

Millie Mugica – Nashua

Also in attendance:

None

The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm in the east wing downstairs at the Nashua Public Library.

Minutes

The minutes from the April 24, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

Old Business

Corridor Management Plan

Kath and Karen briefly discussed the joint board meeting in Hudson on May 7, chaired by Jim Barnes, at which Bob gave a brief presentation introducing the updated Corridor Management Plan. Bob gave a well-received presentation and tentative plans were made to return for a follow-up presentation in a few months when the boards have had a chance to review the plan.

Kath mentioned that she contacted George about a presentation in Merrimack. George will contact the Merrimack Planning Board and try to get LMRLAC on the agenda for a June meeting. George will also contact the Merrimack Conservation Commission and Zoning Board to notify them of the meeting, to either make it a joint meeting or to at least make them aware of the scheduled presentation to the Planning Board.

Kath also contacted Glenn to ask him to get LMRLAC on the agenda for the Litchfield Planning Board, and will follow up with Glenn in a week.

Karen stated that she has been in contact with Lucy St. John in the Nashua Planning Department. LMRLAC is on the agenda for the Nashua Conservation Commission's June 3 meeting. The presentation to the Nashua Planning Board is tentatively planned for September. Karen will pick up a hard copy of the plan and CDs from Minda for the Nashua Conservation Commission meeting.

Kath will follow-up with Minda on the 15 hard copies of the plan for LMRLAC members and member communities. She will arrange for the plan copies to be available for the June 26 LMRLAC meeting. The updated plan has been posted to the NRPC Web site.

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Kath and Karen discussed a possible joint meeting at NRPC at which the plan is presented and discussed. Kath will contact Jim Barnes for his opinions on a joint meeting for the Planning Boards. Kath and Karen agreed that a joint meeting at NRPC with the Conservation Commissions from each community may be a worthwhile option for a joint meeting.

Kath and Karen discussed making the June LMRLAC meeting a working session at which members review the plan and start discussing what projects to start working from the plan. The next meeting will also be an opportunity for more discussion on adoption options for each community. This led to a discussion on whether adopting the Corridor Management Plan as an addendum to a Master Plan is the same process as adopting a Master Plan.

Kath and Karen discussed involving NRPC on putting together more specific recommendations on adoption options for each community. Kath will contact Minda for NRPC's advice on the status of the Master Plan in each community, and whether the Corridor Management Plan can be an addendum to a Master Plan with just Planning Board involvement, or whether the process involves the Board of Aldermen/Board of Selectmen in each community.

RMAC June meeting

Kath stated that she has an item on the agenda for the June RMAC (Rivers Management Advisory Committee) meeting to bring up the issue of adequate notification of the LACs by DES. She plans to propose a subcommittee to look into the matter further, with possible recommendations for legislative/administrative changes to come out of the subcommittee. She mentioned that several LACs have expressed a desire for better notification. She gave an example of a pesticide application on the Ashuelot for which the LAC for that river was not notified.

Kath also contacted DES to follow-up on LMRLAC's concerns about Alteration of Terrain notification. She spoke with Laura Weit, who found that Bob's e-mail contact information was not correct in the master database. She has updated the information, and all programs that notify the LAC have been informed of the correction.

Annual Report

Kath submitted LMRLAC's 2007 annual report to DES to distribute to the member communities.

Local Updates

Merrimack

Kath said that George had informed her that the Merrimack Village Dam removal permit is in place for the dam on the Souhegan. George informed Kath that salmon are currently being released into the Souhegan.

Nashua

Karen mentioned that the Nashua Conservation Commission recently had a presentation on CSO upgrades, which included one CSO on the Merrimack. Kath will contact Amy Gill to see if she can give LMRLAC a presentation on the project at the June 26 meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 26 at 7pm at the Nashua Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Archambault
secretary