

**LOWER MERRIMACK RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
December 2, 2004**

Members:

- ✓ = present

- ✓ Bob Robbins (Chair) – Hudson
- ✓ Kathryn Nelson (Vice Chair/Public Relations) -- Nashua
- ✓ George May (Secretary) - Merrimack
- ✓ Glenn McKibben (Treasurer) – Litchfield
- ✓ Sharon Akres -- Merrimack
- ✓ Jim Barnes – Hudson
- ✓ Will Jewett – Litchfield
- ✓ Stan Kazlouskas – Hudson
- ✓ Rick Maddox – Hudson
- Ray Peebles - Litchfield
- ✓ Cynthia Ruonala -- Nashua
- Patrick Tate – Hudson
- John Mitterholzer - Nashua

Others:

- ✓ Angela Vincent – NRPC
- ✓ Karen Archambault - Nashua

Chairman Bob Robbins called the meeting to order at 7:10pm in the NRPC Conference Room. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted after two changes were made.

Updates

- Angie reported that DES will not replace the Rivers Coordinator pro tem till Steve Couture returns from Iraq. Until then we are to contact the Lakes Coordinator, Jacquie Colburn, and also Steve Landry may be able to help out. But this will require more effort on our part to get state cooperation and help.

- Angie distributed a CD from the EPA Watershed Academy for information on watershed topics. There are more available if anyone would like an extra.

Old Business

Corridor Management Plan and Outreach Program: George, Angie and Sharon presented the Power Point presentation to the Merrimack Planning Board on November 16th and reported that it seemed well received. The next presentation will be to the Litchfield PB on Dec 7th. The presentation will be on the LAC website shortly. It was suggested that a listserv for interested citizens could be developed on the website also.

The grant for the survey is being worked on. Bob is still expecting a \$500 grant from his company, Citigroup, also. Bob explained this survey would be to include community, interested citizens, and public support.

New Business

Development Review: The site specific permit application for River Ridge in Hudson was examined. There is an easement along the river for trail use. It was moved, seconded, and passed that Bob write a boilerplate letter requesting BMPs during construction.

Bob noted after discussion with Ridgely Mauck at DES that towns can adopt requirements for BMPs and LID.

Airport Access Road – DOT has not found any endangered mussels in the construction area. George noted that he had been contacted through the local paddling club about construction of a canoe access on the Manchester/Litchfield side of the construction site. He will follow up on this.

Management Plan -- Bob suggested that members think about what we'd like to see in the plan. He suggested LID, river access (especially improvements at Greeley Park), and Heritage Trail. He will probably bring this up at all future meetings.

Welcome Packet -- Kath has put together several documents to help explain our role to new members. Bob wants feedback from new members on what each would like to accomplish and what each would like to work on. It was pointed out that members wrote an essay for the appointment by NH DES and that should be shared with the LAC.

Bob suggested that a specific member be a lead person to review plans so they can be explained to the full committee more clearly. Angie usually does this already. There was discussion about having town planners require projects come to the LAC if within our purview. Hudson is very interested in doing this immediately.

DES will come to the January meeting to provide information about Permit by Notification.

Sharon offered to do publicity for the LAC and she was warmly accepted as the new publicity chair. It was also thought that we could have some of our daytime planning meetings at the MRWC office, where she works, in order to connect the two groups. There was also talk of having a TV presentation for local public channels in the four towns.

Rick asked if we had a design for a marker to mark setbacks along the river. It was thought that we could design and make them possibly through a grant. Kath noted that Nashua has wetlands markers and will bring one to the Jan meeting.

Local Updates

Rick asked for support for the upcoming request on the Hudson ballot for a part time associate planner/grant writer. It was noted that Nashua had such a position already and it was very successful.

George asked if there had been follow up to the Hudson violation noted during the recent boat trip. Rick will follow up.

Glenn noted that Litchfield now owns the land across from the library and the other parcels south to the apartments. He also said that a recent Eagle Scout project has created a very nice trail from St. Francis Church to the river at the Moores Falls property.

Cynthia was concerned with pollution going into the Piscataquog River in Goffstown and into Salmon Brook in Nashua. George will contact her with people who can straighten out these problems.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, January 27, 7pm, NRPC.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
George May