

# Minutes of Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee

Police Station, Milford New Hampshire

January 16, 2020

In attendance were members Bill Mahar (Wilton), Cam Lockwood (Temple), and Kleta Dudley (New Ipswich), Marshall Buttrick (Greenville), Nelson Disco (Merrimack), George May (Merrimack) and Rich Hart (Amherst.)

As Rich Hart was present and he is the vice chairman, he ran the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes from December 2019 -Approved.**

## **Business**

### **No new Permits**

**Announcement of Legislation Tracking four proposed legislation changes for 2020.** New legislation tracking: DES is tracking four proposed legislation changes for 2020 and have developed a list related to rivers, lakes, and committee business. The 2020 Rivers and Lakes Programs Legislation Tracking Spreadsheet on both the RMAC Forum at [https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/?page\\_id=624](https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/?page_id=624) and on the LMAC Forum at [https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/lmac/?page\\_id=280](https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/lmac/?page_id=280)

**RMAC scheduled for Friday, January 17, 2020 from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm in Room 208C at NHDES. Cory unable to attend, do we have an alternate?** (normally just the chairs attend) Meeting materials have been posted on the RMAC Forum at <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/>. No alternate available to attend.

**SoRLAC Authorization to Waive Intervention -** Nelson made a motion to adopt the measure. It was seconded by Cam Lockwood.

**Special Topics for Discussion-** Nelson will contact Jim Taylor and double check that he is still willing to do a WWTP presentation next month. Jim had the flu

and was unable to attend the January meeting. Cathy Joly was not in attendance so it could not be confirmed that she is willing to be the lead on the Green Burial topic.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>SoRLAC rep.</b>
2020			
?	<b>Water Quality maintenance at Country Clubs</b>		<b>Rob</b>
2/20	<b>WWTP- how they work</b>		<b>Jim</b>
3/19	<b>Results of Dam removals</b>		<b>George</b>
4/16	<b>Results of testing at Superfund sites, PCB in fish</b>		<b>Celeste</b>
5/21	<b>BMP for wetland projects, i.e. culverts, dams, culvert mapping</b>		
6/18	<b>Climate changes in rivers, its effect on critters</b>		
7/16	<b>State fish stocking program</b>		<b>George</b>
8/20	<b>Green Burials</b>		<b>Cathy(?)</b>
9/17	<b>Surface Water Runoff During Construction Projects</b>		
10/15			
11/20			
12/20			

### **Local Updates**

**Souhegan Watershed Association-** George says talks continue about switching the Adopt a Salmon program to Adopt a Trout program. Curriculums are being reviewed but it won't happen this year.

**New Ipswich-** Nothing to report

**Greenville-** Nothing to report

**Temple-** Nothing to report.

**Wilton-** Harris Center wants to partner with High School and begin a program to engage students in Conservation studies. Sustainability Fair is coming up in April. George would like some volunteer to help him at the table he sets up so he can go and mingle a bit. Cam volunteered. We discussed handouts of the past and if we needed to have some for the fair.

**Milford-** Nothing to report

**Merrimack-** Nelson has a trifold pamphlet that George could probably use at the Sustainability Fair. George will be speaking at the Merrimack Historical Society about the Merrimack River on Tues at 7:00 p.m. (Jan. 21.) We discussed topics related to the river that we thought he should review in his speech.

**Amherst-**Rich said that the Town of Amherst, after not having much development for the past 10 years had 3 big developments, 2 of which were close to center of town. This had resulted in 3 citizen proposals going on the town warrant.

The first was to have the Planning Board members elected instead of being appointed by the Selectmen.

The second was to remove IHO zoning law. This has to do with "Density Bonuses." The intent of the laws were to insure that there was mixed development in town (not all elderly housing or all low cost housing built in separate areas) and preserve open space. If the law is removed, Amherst will have no way to preserve open space or have elderly housing, but as the State requires Work Force Housing, that will still be built in town. The town could return to 2 Acre zoning.

The third Citizens proposal was to cap the "Bonus Housing" at 35%. Rich felt this needs more thought but it will be on Amherst's ballot this year.

There was discussion on the development of Jacobson's Farm. On one side of the road, the proposal is to rebuild the Barn with apartments and operate a CSA on

the property. On the other side of the road there would be a mixed development of duplexes, houses, elderly housing and some rentals, all clustered and approximately 60 acres of open space which borders open space from another town. The development is suppose to be solar and low energy. This is near the center of town and the neighbors are not too keen on the prospect of new development and increased traffic.

There are 2 other proposed developments in town as well, both clustered with open space. George asked if open space land would be public. Rich was not certain but thought it would as it would allow the developers to get extra "Bonus Points." There would also probably be trails.

There was some reminiscing about the old farm, and the problems New Hampshire towns are facing regarding housing issues. Rich noted that the State has created a 3 member board to adjudicate real estate issues.

Next Meeting Feb. 20, probably at Police Station.

Submitted by Kleta Dudley, sec. Jan. 16, 2020