

**LOWER MERRIMACK RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 24, 2004**

Members:

- ✓ = present

- ✓ Will Jewett – Litchfield
- ✓ Glenn McKibben (Treasurer) – Litchfield
Ray Peeples – Litchfield (4)
- ✓ George May (Secretary) - Merrimack
- ✓ Bob Robbins (Chair) – Hudson
- ✓ Rick Maddox – Hudson
Stan Kazlouskas – Hudson (1)
- ✓ Jim Barnes – Hudson
Patrick Tate – Hudson (1)
John Mitterholzer – Nashua (1)
- ✓ Kathryn Nelson (Vice Chair/Public Relations) -- Nashua

Others:

- ✓ Angela Rapp – NRPC
- ✓ Sharon Akers – Merrimack CC

Chairman Bob Robbins called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm in the NRPC Conference Room. It was noted that a quorum was present.

The scheduled boat trip was not available as the owner was out of town, so it is being rescheduled for 3:30pm, Sept 23 from the Greeley Park boat ramp. The regular meeting will follow at 7pm.

The July minutes were approved as printed.

Updates

- Depot Street access – Improvements to the access are just about completed. We will coordinate a dedication of the improved boat ramp in conjunction with the 9am, Sunday, Oct 3, MRWC canoe trip and create a vinyl banner for the occasion that can be used at other events also. Kath will create it. Angie will pdf info. The Merrimack Historical Society will be involved since this is an important historical site, the canal boat tie-up and site of the Reeds Ferry crossing from Litchfield.

- DES update – “Permit by Notification,” a newly created DES permit process was discussed. Kath explained that we will receive email notification only, as will the local CC. We will not receive a plan; the CC will. If the CC signs off, we have only 10 days to respond. If they do not sign off, we will have only 25 days to respond. LACs will need to create a procedure to respond. Clarification and creating a way to respond will be discussed at the September meeting. A ‘permit by notification’ was received for an L-shaped dock in Hudson and we were not able to respond to it. It was also noted that “Expedited Permits” need the same kind of procedure to respond because of the short timelines.

- Presentations to the local planning boards re the management plan were discussed. Steve Couture, our Rivers Coordinator, has been mobilized and is going to Iraq and will be gone for more than a year. It was felt that although no replacement has been named yet, a capable spokesman for the RMPP will be available for the presentations. Presentations will be:
 1. Litchfield - October 19th
 2. Hudson - October 27th
 3. Merrimack - November 16th
 4. Nashua - December 16th

Old Business

- Bob noted that the grant for the survey is coming along. Glenn got the EIN number and said that a state number was needed before we can open a checking account to receive the grant money. Angie will email the W-9(?) to him to get the state number.

- Maintaining the trees within the 150' SPA setback at the Annandale Fields project in Litchfield was discussed. Apparently it is correctly delineated on the plans.
- The draft Development Review Checklist was discussed. We will use the checklist to review plans. It will be modified as necessary and eventually given to developers prior to their submissions.

New Business

- Wetlands permit application from DOT for widening of Rte 102 in Hudson. The plans were examined and a letter containing five comments is to be sent:
 1. We would like a sign identifying Reeds Brook erected
 2. We want assurance that there are spill prevention plans in place so that pollution will not enter the brook.
 3. We would like to know if a stormwater management plan is completed.
 4. We would like assurance that adequate maintenance plans are in place for the oil/water separator
 5. We commend them for including adequate erosion controls during and after construction
- Site Specific permit application for construction of a trailer parking lot at Anheuser-Busch in Merrimack. Plans were examined. There was concern that there is no landscaping and that there was a large impervious surface in an aquifer protection zone. We will ask that they consider Low Impact Development techniques and that Angie can provide them with a LID manual or website. It was felt that Anheuser-Busch could and should be a leader for LID in this area.
- Water Quality Monitoring: George explained what monitoring was being done on the Merrimack River. There was discussion about how the LAC could help more with the monitoring. Rick suggested that we should provide funds for the program. At today's expenses that comes to about \$1200. Kath will talk to the Nashua CC about providing \$100 to help with the program.

Local Updates

- Jim explained that a 79-unit condo project, River Ridge, is being proposed close to the river in Hudson. Part is in the 100-year floodplain according to the plans. It was suggested that Angie get a copy of the plans so we can comment early in the process.
- The Chair will contact Ray Peeples to see if he is interested in continuing on the LAC since he has four unexcused absences.
- Meeting adjourned around 9pm.

Respectfully submitted,
George May, Secretary