

Members:

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- ✓ 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 7pm in the east wing downstairs at the Nashua Public Library. Kath indicated that Jim and Millie had contacted her to indicate they would be unable to attend. Cynthia and George did not respond. Kath and Bob discussed the possibility of getting contact information from members unable to attend meetings so they could be reached by telephone if a quorum were required to take action on an item of business before the committee. Kath cited an instance when the Rivers Management Advisory Committee used this method to achieve a quorum. Kath will add a request for a contact number from members with the next meeting's agenda.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 23, October 25, and December 6 meetings were approved.

Membership

Kath has submitted her paperwork to renew her appointment to the Nashua mayor's office. Karen has not yet submitted her paperwork but indicated she will do so soon.

Corridor Management Plan Update

Kath volunteered to contact Minda on Friday to remind her of the actions noted in the minutes of December 6, to confirm that a draft of the plan will be e-mailed to members next week, and to request that she attend the February 28 meeting. Kath also said she would remind Minda to add another point to the plan that commercial sites within the corridor consider multiple story structures/parking garages to minimize impervious surface within the corridor.

Old Business

Bob attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting in December, at which two projects in the corridor were discussed: the potential redevelopment of Green Meadow Golf Course in Hudson and the Nashua Landing project in south Nashua, centered around the former Hampshire Chemical site on Spit Brook Road.

- Green Meadow Golf Course, Hudson

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Regarding the Hudson project, Bob indicated that the presentation stated the intention that the owner still plans to do something with the land, and that the intention is to be environmentally responsible with whatever project is proposed.

- Nashua Landing, Nashua

Regarding the Nashua project, Bob described the project's proposed disturbance of 1,829,520 square feet, with 1,467,972 square feet of impervious surface.

After the Chamber of Commerce meeting, Bob conferred with Kath, and they determined that LMRLAC had commented on the Dredge and Fill application for the site, but that the LAC had not reviewed or commented on the Alteration of Terrain permit application for the project. The LAC had been cc'd on a letter to the Nashua City Clerk requesting comment from the City, but the LAC had not received a formal request to submit comments on the Alteration of Terrain permit.

Kath contacted DES to determine the status of the permit for Nashua Landing and was informed that all permits had been given. Bob contacted Steve Couture to discuss the lack of LAC notification for the AOT permit. He was informed that the file included a copy of LMRLAC's comments on the Dredge and Fill application, but nothing specific to the AOT permit. Bob contacted Tom Irwin of the Conservation Law Foundation to discuss the Alteration of Terrain permit and the nature of the LAC's notification of the permit.

Bob then sent a letter to DES Commissioner Tom Burack stating concerns about the extensive impervious cover planned for the project, and how the LAC did not receive an opportunity to formally comment on the Alteration of Terrain permit. He requested that the project be halted until the LAC has had the time to properly review and comment on the permit.

Bob pointed out that the situation is particularly troubling in light of his meeting with Commissioner Burack last July at which he expressed concerns about the lack of communication between LMRLAC and DES and feedback from DES to LMRLAC on its comments on projects.

Bob showed that he received a response from Commissioner Burack today indicating receipt of the letter, and that Commissioner Burack would provide a more detailed response within a couple of weeks.

New Business

- Keyspan, 38 Bridge St, Nashua

The LAC received a notification letter about this project on January 4, 2008. The project intends to install wells and underground piping within the wetland buffer zone of the Nashua River. The project is within the quarter-mile corridor of the Merrimack River. After receiving the letter, Bob contacted Keyspan to get more information on the project. The proposed pilot well is associated with a possible cleanup project for the site, a former MGP (manufactured gas plant) operation, for terrestrial remediation.

Kath proposed sending a letter to DES stating the LAC's support for the permit request in light of the fact that it will cause minimal physical disturbance and addresses potential pollution to the Nashua River, and thus to the Merrimack River. The project also includes Best Management Practices. Kath will generate the letter.

- RES Realty Trust, King St, Merrimack

The LAC received a notification letter about this project on January 11, 2008. The application is to fill 1.026 square feet of wetland as part of its proposal to construct a wood pallet recycling plant. The LAC is asked to provide input within 30 days. The plan includes fill of the wetland,

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construction of a retention basin near where the wetland is currently located, and proposes the basin would handle the stormwater on-site as well as off-site stormwater that drains to the site.

Upon reviewing the plan documents provided to LMRLAC, members determined that there is not sufficient evidence that the applicant cannot avoid fill of the wetland. Members also expressed concern that the proposed retention basin would not be sufficient to handle the on-site and off-site stormwater. In light of these concerns, the LAC will send a letter to DES indicating that the LAC cannot recommend approval with the information given.

Local Updates

Nashua: Karen mentioned she had attended a Nashua Conservation Commission meeting in December at which a proposal to address erosion at Thoreau's Landing was introduced. She was able to speak briefly with the representative from Aries Engineering, Peter McGlew, who had given the presentation. She told the LAC that Mr. McGlew expressed an interest to her in giving a presentation to the LAC on the proposed project if they were interested in hearing more about it.

Other Business

Kath reminded members of the e-mails previously sent out notifying them of upcoming DES workshops.

Meeting adjourned 8:05pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 28 at 7pm at the Nashua Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Archambault
secretary