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APPROVED SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Representatives Attending the Meeting in Person: Joe Foley- Chair (Epping), Dick Lord- Vice-Chair (Durham), Jim Brady (Lee), Tasha Lewis (Lee), Jerry Martin (Newmarket), Kitty Miller (Lee), Dennis Regan (Lee), Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket), Therese Thompson (Raymond), John Wallace (Barrington), and Peter White (Nottingham).

Representatives Attending by Phone: Mary Ann Krebs– Treasurer (Durham)

Representative Absent: Grace Levergood (Northwood).

Staff Attending by Phone: Suzanne Petersen

Staff Absent: Jim MacCartney

A quorum was established and **Chair Foley** opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Approval of the Minutes from July 19, 2022:

Action

Motion: **John Wallace** made a motion to accept the minutes of July 19, 2022 as drafted.

Second: **Dick Lord**

Discussion: None

Vote: **Approved 10-0-2 (Mary Ann Krebs voted aye on the phone)**

Abstentions: **Peter White** and **Dennis Regan**

2. Financial Report:

Mary Ann Krebs gave the financial report this evening. She reviewed the most recent activity in the account and discussed the Reconciliation Report (prepared 8/12/2022) and the Budget vs Actuals (prepared 7/31/2022) of the 10-1-2021 – 9-20-2022 fiscal year. There are pending commitments of \$11,229.32 outstanding. The Chair mentioned that LRAC has spent less than 50% of their budget in the last 10 months. The Chair wanted to discuss ways to improve spending on projects after COVID. The Chair said he had received a bill from the Federal Income Tax Preparation Audit this week and **Mary Ann** confirmed receipt. He has asked Mary Ann to check on whether we needed to commit funds jointly to the Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA) this year. She will check on that for the Committee.

1 **3. Workgroup Updates:**

2 **Outreach:**

3 The workgroup did not meet this month. The date for the Lee Fair at Little River Park has been
4 announced - September 17, 2022 from 1:00-9:00 PM. **Tasha** and **Dennis** have agree to work at
5 the Fair information table. The materials in the storage facility in Dover include 2 different
6 displays to choose from, lots of literature to distribute, a pop-up tent, and a folding table. **Jerry**
7 has the pass code for the storage unit and a key and those involved will coordinate retrieving
8 the materials from storage. **Suzanne** has submitted the application for a table space.

9 **Recreation:**

10 **1) Dennis** reported on working with the Recreation Department in Newmarket. They discussed
11 with the Director Aimee Gigandet the three sites in Town – improving two of the ‘put in’ sites
12 and possibly building another site. She did not have any insight into the issues at Schoppmeyer
13 Park. **Patrick** mentioned that people use the kayak launch for a swimming ladder and a paddle
14 board launch. **Mary Ann** had thoughts of trying to clean-up the area on the Piscassic where she
15 launches her boat. **Patrick** mentioned that the Town does not own that land...it is owned by
16 Fish & Game. **Patrick** will reach out to the Newmarket ConCom about the litter problem and
17 the dumping of boats.

18 **2) Lee Canoe Launch:** **Grace** reported to the Chair prior to the meeting. She has received only
19 one bid after trying to get more to apply for the job. Having done our due diligence, the Chair
20 will discuss with Jim MacCartney whether we can go forward with contractor Jerry
21 Fenstermaker. We could then get our order in the queue for the necessary 6” granite from
22 Swenson Granite Works. **Grace** also reported that she will be going to the Lee Conservation
23 Commission and she will be applying for the NHDES permit.

24
25 **John Wallace** asked if SELT would be eligible to apply for Community Grant funding from LRAC.
26 He will be attending their meeting tomorrow morning and could speak to them about the
27 possibility. The only criterion is that the project must be related to the Lamprey
28 River/watershed area. Information about SELT’s current projects is included in the summer
29 newsletter: https://seltnh.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SELT_News_Summer2022-5.pdf

30
31 **History:**

32 **Dennis** mentioned that some of the local historical folks are looking at a way to recognize the
33 importance of Wadleigh Falls. There is spot near the junction where a nice kiosk could be
34 located with consistent signage/graphics. **Dick Lord** has done some work on this and would be
35 happy to meet with the historical group.

36 **Wildlife:** **Kitty** had nothing to report. Members were polled to ask if they had anything to
37 report.

38 **Water Quality:**

39 **1) Tasha** spoke about SOAK (<https://www4.des.state.nh.us/SoakNH/>) from NHDES. Soak Up

1 the Rain New Hampshire (SOAKNH) is a voluntary program managed by the New Hampshire
2 Department of Environmental Services. The goal is to engage home and small business owners
3 to do their part to help protect and restore clean water in the state's lakes, streams, and coastal
4 waters from the negative impacts of stormwater pollution. She felt that LRAC might consider
5 doing trainings to each town, creating rain gardens, or possibly subsidizing rain barrels.
6 Members thought this was a great idea.

7 **2) Picture of the Piscassic Running Dry:** Patrick spoke about the NHDES picture that showed
8 the Piscassic running dry. The location of this dry river bed on the Piscassic is just below Grant
9 Road in Newmarket. Part of the reason the riverbed runs dry is the old dam that is just below
10 where the measurement is being taken in the third photo. He has spoken to at least one expert
11 on removing this dam; however, he was told that removal could affect the footings of the
12 bridge. It is an old stone wall type dam which is really only seen when the water gets low. He
13 thinks it would be a worthwhile project to have an engineer look at this to get a second opinion.
14 This dam not only causes the river to run dry in droughts, but it also impedes fish passage.
15 Would an assessment and possible removal something that might be added to the new
16 management plan? The old name for this dam is 'crow falls'. Dick thinks that we should ask
17 Grace (in her engineering capacity) take a look at it and report back.

18
19 Two students from UNH are working in the watershed to evaluate all the culverts. Members
20 have seen them working in different towns. Suzanne mentioned that a Vermont firm did the
21 whole watershed in 2017. The recommendations are on the website under "Stream Crossing
22 Assessment." Funds are available to towns to replace culverts from the American Rescue Plan
23 Act. The deadline was July 1, but perhaps there will be a second round.

24
25 **Project Review:**

26 1) The chair mentioned the preliminary plan for Foster Farm received from the Candia
27 Conservation Commission. A draft comment letter was included in the agenda package. The
28 chair received approval by consensus from the members so he will sign the letter and send it to
29 Candia tomorrow.

30 2) The culvert replacement on the Little River: The chair asked for comments. The general
31 feeling was that with the DOT, NHDES, and EPA involved, LRAC doesn't need to weigh in right
32 now.

33 **Other:**

34 **1) Therese Thompson** reported that only five out of 14 towns are not represented on LRAC.
35 Of the five, only one, Deerfield, is actually on the Lamprey River. She has decided to use the
36 website to promote the positive benefits of sending representation to LRAC. Dick pointed out
37 that we have lots of printed supplies and booklets to give to their conservation commissions.
38 She will coordinate with those who are getting materials from the storage shed in Dover to get
39 supplies for distribution. She plans to begin with Deerfield, and move on to the four other

1 towns letting them know about the kind of funding that LRAC can provide on their tributaries
2 with or without the Lamprey running through their town.

3 **2) Management Plan:**

4 The general feeling of the members is to shorten up the plan as the sections are very repetitive.
5 The most important section is the chapter on land protection which the chair believes we could
6 write ourselves. **Dick** wants new maps with all the new information. **Tasha** believes that ‘future
7 actions’ need not be so extensive...perhaps more over-arching goals. **John Wallace** wants to see
8 an appendix at the end with those projects that have been completed. **Tasha** discussed the
9 community engagement part of this plan. We should survey the towns (rec. depts. and c con
10 coms). **John** mentioned the charrette that was used in preparation for the Moose Mountains
11 Regional Greenway plan. The chair suggested the use of Survey Monkey. **Patrick** suggests that
12 we could ask FB Environment, the group that Ellen Snyder suggested. **Tasha** suggested that
13 **Suzanne** could send a letter to them asking for plans that they have completed for other
14 towns– with the understanding that this review would have a financial component.

15
16 The chair has asked **Tasha** to chair the Management Plan Workgroup. **Patrick, Joe,** and **Dick** will
17 also serve. All members agreed to help as needed.

18
19 **4. Other Business**

20 No other business this evening.

21
22 **5. Upcoming Events**

23 a. Outreach, Recreation, History, and Wildlife Workgroup meeting, September 14, 10:00 AM,
24 Newmarket Public Library or by phone.

25 b. Next LRAC meeting September 20, 7:00 PM, Lee Public Safety Complex

26
27 **6. Adjourn**

28 **Action**
29 **Motion:** **Dick Lord** made a motion to adjourn at 8:26 PM.
30 **Second:** **Dennis Regan**
31 **Discussion:** None
32 **Vote:** **Approved Unanimously 12-0-0 (Mary Ann Krebs** voted aye on the phone)

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34
35 Respectfully submitted,

36
37 Sue Frick, interim recording secretary