

Lamprey River Advisory Committee
Meeting Agenda August 15, 2023 7:00 P.M.
Location: Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road
Meeting will be upstairs.

Project review 6:30

- Durham, Ross Road culvert, wetlands
- Raymond, Jewett warehouse, wetlands
- Newmarket, 13 Moody Point, shoreland
- Newmarket, 17 Great Cove Dr., shoreland

approval of minutes from July 18, 2023

financial report

funding request from SELT, Lori Sommer

management plan revision update:

Round Two of water resources section

outreach session:

other:

- FYI Lee Public Canoe access repairs: The contractor says he is bogged down with other projects due to the extreme rainfall events. He is going to shoot for the September date, 9/11
- FYI bacterial tracking: Per Steve Jones, We have sampled the 6 routine sites (Newmarket to Raymond) on 4/19, 5/11, 6/15 and 7/17, plus we sampled an array of sites in the Moonlight Brook watershed (the tributary running under New Road and the main stem up to the Recreation Center by the elementary school) on 5/16, 5/24 and 6/22.

A significant environmental factor has been the increased rainfall in June and July, especially in contrast to 2022. For the routine sites, we found a dramatic jump in *E. coli* (the freshwater water quality indicator) concentrations at all sites in June and more so on the July sample date (Monday). All sites exceeded the state standard in June and July except the Piscassic boat launch in June. The 7/17 results showed concentrations well above the state standard.

In the Moonlight Brook study, we found consistent detection of *E. coli* at all sites, but the concentrations increased on the June sample date compared to the May dates to where all sites had concentrations exceeding the state standard.

Our existing budget will only support sample analysis of the routine sites the rest of the way.

- Moonlight Brook sewage issue: Propose requesting that DES ask the town for their proposed time-line for fixing this serious public-health problem. After a couple of years of it being a problem, it needs more than a continued “We will look into it” response. (See July engineering notes from Newmarket on back.)
- FYI Onyx project site public hearing
- FYI Pawtuckaway State Park:
 - August 4, 2023 The Division of Parks and Recreation after careful consideration and thought has decided to redirect the federal American Rescue Plan funds appropriated to Pawtuckaway State Park. The project scope will include a new dump station to service recreational vehicles camping in the park and to renovate toilet buildings on Horse and

Big Island. The renovations to the toilet buildings will include interior renovations, upgrade of utilities and shower addition where feasible. The Division will not be pursuing construction of additional campsites. Design and engineering for these projects continue and construction is expected to begin in the fall of 2024

- RMAC/LMAC ARC GIS, Therese

future meetings and events:

- Next LRAC meeting September 19, 2023
- salt marsh presentation and tour with Newmarket Sunrise Sunset Center September 27 and October 4

From Newmarket July Department updates, engineering:

I worked with Bart McDonough, Director of Planning & Community Development (PCD) and Dave Evans, Code Enforcement/Health Officer to draft language for proposed changes to Chapter 32 of the Code of Ordinances to more clearly address the prohibition of illicit discharges to the municipal storm drain system. We will present these proposed changes to the Planning Board and Town Council in August.

I've been working with researchers from UNH that are investigating potential non-point sources of bacteria loading to the Lamprey River and, more specifically, to Moonlight Brook. I've coordinated with UNH to identify sampling sites that are accessible and help to bracket segments of the brook. The sampling and investigation is on-going and will hopefully help us to identify ways to reduce/remove bacteria loading in the Moonlight Brook watershed. Additionally, I received notice that our CWSRF pre-application submitted to NHDES for a Stormwater Planning project to build upon these efforts and help the Town meet MS4 requirements is included in the Project Priority List (PPL) for funding. The PPL will be finalized in the coming months and we anticipate that our project will be funded. I've been working with Bart McDonough, Director of PCD, and representatives from the Conservation Commission, Riverfront Advisory Committee, and Strafford Regional Planning Commission (SRPC) to develop an improvement plan and funding strategy for upgrading aspects of Schanda Park and the downtown riverfront area. There are a number of proposed improvements that need to be coordinated and phased to compliment and build upon each other.