

**DRAFT Minutes Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee
September 26, 2023, 2023 Meeting**

Plymouth Public Library, 1 Russell St., Highland St., Plymouth, NH 03264

Members Present:

Ashland: Kathleen DeWolfe

Bridgewater: Judy Faran

Bristol:

Campton: Sherrill Howard

Holderness:

Lincoln:

New Hampton: Barry Draper (Zoom)

Plymouth: Bill Bolton, Lisa Doner (Zoom)

Thornton: Myrtle Lewis

Woodstock: James Chesebrough

At Large:

LRPC: Dave Jeffers

Guests:

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order by Sherrill at 6:35PM
2. Approval of minutes from our August 29, 2023 meeting were reviewed. No changes were made. Sherrill moved that they be approved as amended. Bill seconded. All approved.
3. Dave Jeffers updated us on the status of the revision of the **PRLAC Management Plan**. Feedback about the plan was received by Tracie Sales of NHDES. Primarily there are just some small corrections to be made regarding formats, etc. to comply with ADA. LRPC will be making those changes.

There is one section that was left out and that is regarding Meander Belts (Oxbows, ponds, or wetlands). Members have submitted their suggested locations with photos to Dave. He is requesting that anyone who submitted photos to please review and provide captions to those photos.

Dave hopes to have a final draft of the Revised plan perhaps by December.

4. The **PRLAC VRAP** program has finished for the season. Max has stepped down as leader of the PRLAC VRAP program. We will need a new leader come spring.

Sherrill has gotten permission from a homeowner for us to take samples at the confluence of the Mad River and Pemi. We will need to talk to DES to make sure this added location is OK, but this site would be good to test as there is a lot of things happening upstream from this location that could adversely affect the river.

There are a number of sites in the northern area of PRLAC that would warrant adding another testing group. Right now PRLAC has two areas, North and South. This would add

another group for further north. PRLAC will have to talk to DES about where best to test and also to see if we could get another set of equipment.

5. **White Mountain Country Club – Ashland. Alteration of Terrain (AoT) Bureau Permit Application (RSA 485-A:17); NHDES File Number: Aot -2438 Project Name: White Mountain Country Club Golf Course Subject Property: Tax Map# 201, Lot# 002.**

This application was approved by DES and is shown as such on their website. However, this week the Town of Ashland received a letter more information about the applicants plans. It is unclear whether there is a new application or if the once approved application has been revised. Sherrill will follow up to get clarification.

6. There was an Expedited Minor Impact permit application submitted for the **Jack O'Lantern resort in Thornton** to modify the drainage for the golf course. PRLAC is still has not heard anything about this project.
7. The repair of a culvert in **Bridgewater (DOT Project #2020-M324-2) is now slated for repair in 2024.** This was the site of a recent emergency repair, and DOT is looking to put in a bridge or span structure to permanently fix the issue. This site directly feeds water from the Great Brook under River Road into wetlands adjacent to the river. PRLAC will await the application.
8. Continuing from the last meeting, concern was mentioned regarding the construction that is currently taking place along **Main Street in Plymouth.** A large amount of construction and replacement of underground infrastructure has been taking place all summer. The concern is in the disposal of the materials removed from the site. This area has a long history of development, including over 22 gas stations, dry cleaners, and a tannery. This material removed is most likely to contain contaminants of various hazard. These materials are being hauled away and dumped in locations around town that are on or adjacent to waterways or wetlands. His concern is that the hazards will leach into the aquifer. DES does not require testing unless they see or smell something.

Barry contacted DES and got a hold of the Head of Waste Water who said they have been monitoring the material and where it was being dumped. The DOT official said that they have put most of the material back into the road. Bill said that DES is now taking core samples of the material and testing for contaminants. Based on these actions PRLAC decided that there was no need to send a letter of concern to DES.

9. The **White Mountain Country Club – Ashland** had submitted a Standard Dredge and Fill application to create an irrigation pond (2023-01299). The application is still pending. DES sent the applicant a list of requirements and they have 30 days to respond. PRLAC is under the impression that they have until September 30, 2023 to respond. PRLAC has heard nothing new on this matter.

10. PLRAC received a Permit by Notification (PBN) application for the **Eversource** to replace power lines north of Plymouth across the river to Holderness. PRLAC cannot comment on PBN's. This was sent just for our application.
11. New application received for replacing Water Mains in Franklin. **2023 WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS: EAST AND WEST BOW STREET LOCATION PLAN, CONTRACT NO. 7075**
This project is to replace old infrastructure. PRLAC's only concern is the same issue as the project in Plymouth of possibly dumping contaminated materials in areas within the river corridor. Sherrill will write a letter to DES expressing those concerns.
12. The next PRLAC meeting will be October 31st on Halloween. The group agreed that this day was OK to meet despite the holiday.
13. Sherrill motioned that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 PM, Bill seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned.

For meeting minutes, agenda, and information visit the PRLAC website at
<http://www.lakesrpc.org/prlac/prlacindex.asp>