

**DRAFT Minutes Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee
November 30, 2023, 2023 Meeting**

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

Members Present:

Ashland: Kathleen DeWolf

Bridgewater: Judy Faran

Bristol:

Campton: Sherrill Howard, Janet Lucas

Holderness:

Lincoln: O. J. Robinson (via Zoom)

New Hampton: Barry Draper, Russ Brummer, Lewis Mundy Shaw

Plymouth: Lisa Doner (via Zoom)

Thornton: Myrtle Lewis

Woodstock: James Chesebrough

At Large:

LRPC: Dave Jeffers (via Zoom)

Guests: Anthony Torres, Therran Deprey, Jacob Ricker, Nolan Johnson. All local students from Plymouth High School auditing this session for the Civics class.

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order by Sherrill at 6:32 PM
2. **Approval of minutes** from our October 31, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Dave Jeffers wondered if item #10, Annual Funding for PLRAC rate increase, was approved. It had been approved, but that note was left off the minutes. Kathleen moved that the October minutes be approved as amended. Janet seconded. All approved.
3. **Holiday Schedule.** The next planned meeting for PRLAC would be held normally December 26th. Due to its proximity to Christmas, Barry made a motion that we cancel this meeting. Russ seconded. Sherrill will send out notices to everyone about this cancellation.
4. Dave Jeffers updated us on the status of the revision of the **PRLAC Management Plan** (MP). The Plan is done. To keep within the timeline of this project, LRPC would like PRLAC members to approve the new document as soon as possible. Dave will send out to all members a copy of the MP. The committee and Dave agreed to get back to Dave and Sherrill with any comments they have by the 14th of December.

Once comments are received, the plan will still need to be approved by the committee. To get this done, a new PRLAC meeting will be held January 2nd. Time and place to be announced.

5. LRPC has sent out to the towns the annual appeal for **Funding for PRLAC**. It is too soon to know about any response.
6. The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is requesting PRLAC's annual support of the **Lakes Region USDA Solid Waste Project**. Solid Waste Management Grants are available through the USDA. PRLAC will submit a letter of support requesting that LRPC get approval for a grant in 2024.

This USDA program reduces or eliminates pollution of water resources by providing funding for organizations that provide technical assistance or training to improve the planning and management of solid waste sites.

7. The Wetlands Permit for the project on **Depot Rd. in Thornton** has been approved, but with a number of conditions.
8. The **White Mountain Country Club – Ashland** had submitted an Alternation of Terrain permit, Application to Amend AoT-2438. Their application was incomplete. They have been asked to provide a large number of revisions to their application. This will put this project on the back burner for DES to review.
9. Pat Schlesinger from New Hampton has asked to be added to the PRLAC mailing list so she can be informed about PRLAC meetings and activities. Sherrill will add her to the list of emails.
10. DES announced a **Climate Action Plan**. They will be asking for participants.

NHDES has been awarded a \$3 million formula grant through the EPA to create an updated Climate Action Plan. This is the first of two phases of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). Under this planning grant, a Priority Climate Action Plan is due March 1, 2024, and will be the basis for evaluation of proposals necessary for New Hampshire entities to compete for \$4.6 billion in implementation grants under Phase 2 of the program in April 2024. We plan to use our existing 2009 New Hampshire Climate Action Plan as a framework to start and will focus on actionable measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with an eye toward desired grant opportunities. Following the creation of the preliminary plan, a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan is required to be developed for submission in August 2025.

The second phase of this process will be a competitive implementation grant program. Applicants will be able to apply for implementation grants based on measures identified in the preliminary plan. Applications for implementation grants are due shortly after the required submission date for the preliminary plan, on April 1, 2024. Applicants from all participating states, local governments, tribes and territories can compete for \$4.6 billion in implementation grants based on the measures identified.

Your input is requested - *New Hampshire Listens is working on behalf of NH Department of Environmental Services to design and facilitate community engagement – an essential component of NH’s Priority and Comprehensive Climate Action Plans (PCAP and CCAP).*

There will be three dates for on-line meetings for Stakeholders to share their concerns and comments: November 30, 2023, January 22, 2024, and February 8, 2024. Details about the process and information about the meetings can be found at <https://carsey.unh.edu/new-hampshire-listens/nhdes-updating-new-hampshires-climate-action-plan>

11. Myrtle attended the recent **Thornton Planning Board** Meeting. The proposal for a new cell tower was approved. Myrtle has also been approved as an Alternate to serve on the Planning Board.
12. While PRLAC has representatives from Lincoln and Woodstock, those towns are not officially part of the 1991 New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program (RMPP). PRLAC would like to explore what it would take to get those two towns included in the RMPP.
13. Barry motioned that the meeting be adjourned, Janet seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned 7:35PM

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