

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

Members Present:

Ashland: Kathleen DeWolfe

Bridgewater: Judy Faran

Bristol:

Campton: Sherrill Howard, Janet Lucas

Holderness: Will Abbott

Lincoln: O.J. Robinson

New Hampton: Barry Draper (Zoom)

Plymouth: Lisa Doner (Zoom), Bill Bolton, Neil McIver

Thornton: Myrtle Lewis

Woodstock: Brenna Woodman (Zoom)

At Large:

LRPC: Dave Jeffers (Zoom)

Guest:

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order at 6:32 PM.
2. **Review of minutes:** The minutes of the January 2025 meeting were reviewed. A number of small grammatical changes were made. Kathleen made a motion to approve as amended, Janet seconded. Minutes approved as amended.
3. **Membership** updates. In the hopes of recruiting new members, Sherrill is planning to send a letter to all the towns that have partial or no representation on PRLAC to encourage additional participation. Sherrill did receive a letter from the new City Planner from Franklin that showed interest in PRLAC. She and Dave, both sent information to him with details about PRLAC and how to appoint a representative. Sherrill will also send out a list of current PRLAC Representatives-by-Town to current reps so they can see where help is needed.
4. **VRAP** – Bill will calculate the number of volunteer hours for the VRAP program and will get them to Sherrill so she can submit the Biennial Report for NHDES.
5. **Review from our local Reps.** Bill reported that he had submitted a bill regarding non-profit organizations, but this was defeated. Janet co-sponsored a bill regarding sustainable development. This bill was considered inexpedient. There was mention of a potential bill that would pose a tax on shorefront land owners to help fund dam reconstruction projects. No one was aware of this bill.

6. Sherrill announced that there will be an upcoming Zoom program regarding the **Updated 2025 New Hampshire Stormwater Manual**. This is sponsored by NHDES and will be held March 5th from 7 – 8 PM. This public informational session will also be recorded and located on the UNH Stormwater Center website.
7. PRLAC has received site plans from a Mr. Fawcett of New Hampton who is proposing constructing a dock on his property so he can reach his boat mooring. PRLAC has not received any permit application from NHDES.
8. Sherrill distributed photos of the new Cart Barn at the Owls Nest resort in Ashland. It appears much larger than PRLAC members anticipated and there is no visible siltation fence or other protections for the nearby streambed. Sherrill expressed concern that the comments from PRLAC to NHDES seemed to be ignored.
9. Dave had a few announcements and comments.
 - a. Towns planning boards should have a checklist for applications to ensure that they review everything that is needed. Dave suggested that we be sure they know that they can make a project a **Development of Regional Impact**. If the project might affect the neighboring towns through increased traffic or other impacts, they may elect this option. This action allows neighboring towns to comment on the project.
 - b. Local **planning boards** might be a good source to recruit new PRLAC members.
 - c. Reviewing the **Action Plans** in the new PRLAC Management Plan. Some of the items were to be completed within 1 year's time. These include Water Budget, Water Quality, and Buffers and Setbacks. Dave reviewed these and other action plans that are due to be addressed soon, such as vegetative buffers and steep slopes.
 - d. **Funding opportunities are available**. These include the Drinking Source Water Protection Program. For High-Quality land sources the application is due 11/1/2025. If it is not High-Quality land source of the project is a long-term project then that deadline is May 2025. There is also the Aquatic Restoration Mitigation Program designed to help protect non-drinking water wetlands. There are also additional funding grants available for review on the NHDES website.
 - e. **Regional Planning Commissions** are also involved in Stream Crossing Assessments and Culvert and Closed Drainage systems. This may be a good resource for your community.

10. Some PRLAC members went to the **New Hampton Fish Hatchery** presentation regarding the complete renovation of the facility.
11. Sherrill stated that in Campton, the entire NE Electric Cooperative (NHEC) right-of-way has a large number of dying ash trees. She called NHEC, they said they would come up and assess the situation. The NHEC arborist is in agreement that they need to be taken down.
12. Janet motioned that the meeting be adjourned, Neil seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

For meeting minutes, agenda, and information visit the PRLAC website at
<http://www.lakesrpc.nh.gov/>