

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

Members Present:

Ashland: Kathleen De Wolfe

Bridgewater: Judy Faran

Bristol:

Campton: Sherrill Howard

Holderness: Will Abbott

Lincoln: O.J. Robinson (Zoom), Timmie Maine Miller

New Hampton: Lewis Mundy Shaw

Plymouth: Lisa Doner

Thornton:

Woodstock:

At Large:

LRPC (Lakes Region Planning Commission):

Guest: Sue Berube – Member of the Lincoln Planning Board

Jessen Delaney and Ina Ahern – Plymouth State University

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order at 6:31PM.
2. **Review of minutes:** The minutes of the November 2025 meeting were reviewed. No changes were made. Kathleen 1st, Lewis seconded. Russ abstained. The minutes were approved by all.
3. The Plymouth Library is not available for our **meeting in February**. Judy volunteered Bridgewater. Russ said he would investigate having the meeting at the New Hampton School. Sherrill will decide once she hears back from Russ.
4. Jessen and Ina gave a presentation on the current edition of the **GIS On-line Story Map of the Pemi River Corridor Management Plan** for PRLAC. Jessen will be graduating in May and so we will investigate another intern to take over the project. We are also planning on having LRPC be the host of the Story Map.
5. **Legislative updates.** This item is tabled as the committees two representatives are currently working and not available to speak.
6. Sherrill received another call regarding the **infrastructure project in Franklin**. Sherrill responded with similar comments that were expressed before, stating that while PRLAC is aware of the issues, the Upper Merrimack LAC is the one to give input on this project. She said that she has responded to all inquiries.

7. There is a project at the **Little Red Schoolhouse in Campton**. They have applied for a Shoreland Permit to make some changes to the landscape. PRLAC has yet to receive any formal information regarding this permit. PRLAC was only informed via LRPC. There is machinery already at work on-site. It looks like a new septic tank may be being installed. PRLAC has concern over the very steep slope that is directly behind the building. PRLAC is not sure how much debris and run-off will wash into the river. PRLAC is also concerned about how to do an adequate site visit when there are 2+ feet of snow on the ground.
8. **Owls Nest in Thornton** has many ongoing projects. DES has reviewed the plans that Owls Nest submitted and have many issues and concerns. One of the engineers representing Owls Nest requested from Sherrill a copy of the letter of concerns.
9. NHDES has received the following: Alteration of Terrain (AoT) Bureau Permit Application (RSA 485-A:17); NHDES File Number: 260120-013. Project Name: **PLYMOUTH READINESS CENTER IMPROVEMENTS** Subject Property: Tax Map# 102, Lot# 16. The proposal is to relocate the Plymouth Fire and Police stations to the current site of the NH National Guard Armory. Tighe and Bond Inc. of Portsmouth, NH has written a letter requesting a waiver regarding the Groundwater Recharge Requirements of Env-Wq1507.04, specifically requesting relief from the requirement to capture and infiltrate the groundwater recharge volume. They are stating that the make-up of the soil makes this not possible. PRLAC has concern regarding the proximity to the Baker and Pemigewasset River and the potential for hazardous materials washing into the aquifer. Being a fire station, there is likely to be some fire suppression chemicals that are not totally contained that could cause issues in the aquifer. Part of this area also appears that it may be subject to possible flooding. PRLAC had until March 1st to respond.
10. **The Town of Bristol** received a letter from NHDES to stop all work on Routine Roadway Maintenance on Beech Street. They found that the current project directs untreated stormwater directly into the catch basins with discharge into the Newfound River. Also, the proposed work was within the Pemigewasset River designated river buffer and PRLAC was not given the opportunity to sign off on the project. The Town was informed that a Wetlands Permit is required and that they must restore any of the work already done.
11. FYI. **NH Salt Week** is starting January 26th. Sherrill sent a link to let people know how to sign up. The NHDES Green SnowPro program is partnering with organizations across the country to elevate conversations around winter salt pollution and reduction solutions. Winter Salt Week will feature daily live streams from ecologists, winter maintenance contractors, and activists from across the United States.
12. **The NH Rivers Council** is holding their annual Film Festival Friday March 27, 2026. FYI

13. The NH Rivers Council is also holding an event February 26, 2026, called **What Lies Beneath – Indoor Campfire Stories of Winter**. The storytellers will paint a vivid picture of the mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and bugs and what they do during the winter under the ice and along the rivers.
14. There are no new updates for the **White Mountain Country Club/Owls Nest Vineyard project in Ashland**.
15. Barry sent out an updated article regarding the concerns about the use of **Roundup** and other chemicals used to control weeds. FYI
16. There was a notification regarding the **Bristol Shoreland Standard**, but as PRLAC has yet to receive the information, this item was tabled for a later date.
17. The Town of Lincoln has a proposed project to erect a **Gondola from Riverwalk to Loon Mountain**. This project is on the agenda for the Lincoln Planning Board meeting to be held January 28, 2026. There was concern about the rights to build this gondola. Other concerns include tree cutting, construction on the island in the river, light and noise pollution, items falling from the gondola to the river below.

Sue Berube from the Town of Lincoln Planning Board had some questions for PRLAC. Concerns include the visual impact of power lines. She asked about what protections are regulated on this section of the Pemigewasset River. She is also questioning the Alteration of Terrain Permit as the scope of the permit has changed as well as the change to the partnerships involved. Will Abbott questioned whether such a gondola should even be allowed and what is the State of New Hampshire's responsibility to protect this resource that they are responsible for. There is concern that this would set a precedent to allow more gondolas to be built in the area.
18. Judy entertained a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Russ 1st, Lisa seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith L. Faran

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Secretary

Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

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