

Location: Boyd Science Center room 229, Plymouth State University, Highland Street, Plymouth, NH 03264

Members Present:

Ashland: Kathleen DeWolfe

Bridgewater: Judy Faran

Bristol:

Campton: Sherrill Howard, Janet Lucas

Holderness: Will Abbott

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

New Hampton: Lewis Mundy Shaw

Plymouth: Bill Bolton, Lisa Doner

Thornton:

Woodstock: Jim Chesebrough

At Large:

LRPC (Lakes Region Planning Commission):

Guest:

1. Quorum established and meeting called to order at 6:32 PM.
2. **Review of minutes:** The minutes of the March 2026 meeting were reviewed. No changes were made. Kathleen 1st, Bill seconded. The minutes were approved by all.
3. The Review of the **Management Plan Action Items**. It was determined that the best way to deal with these items is for Judy to send out a spreadsheet listing the items sorted to show the annual and most pressing items first, and the rest in descending order. The committee will review the list and at the May meeting, and perhaps a sub-committee will be established to keep monitor the progress and keep the main committee updated on their status.
4. There was second request For More Information from NHDES dated 4/8/26 regarding the Plymouth Alteration of Terrain Application for the **Plymouth Readiness Center Improvements**.
5. Updates for **Lincoln Gondola Project**. Sherrill talked to NHDES regarding who is a point person to deal with this project. Since they have no application, they have not assigned anyone to it. They will assign it to Emma Berger when they get it. Sherrill asked Emma regarding this setting a precedent for future such projects across the river as well. Ema was not sure. Sherrill talked to Tracy Sales at DES and she said Lincoln would not be protected under the Public Trust Doctrine since they are not signed up for protection. This

does not make sense to this committee as just because they are not under the River Protection program, the State has an obligation to protect the river. If nothing else, that portion of the river flows into the protected portion.

The project continued to be reviewed at last Planning Board meeting in Lincoln (4/8/26). The project is on two parcels of land owned by two different people making the process complicated. The Planning Board has approved the Riverwalk (west) side for the site plan, conditional on the need to approve the South Peak (east side). Postponing decision of regional impact until both parcels are approved. The town advised that any conditional approval must be contingent on final approval of both ends, all necessary state and federal permits, and a two-year deadline for the South Peak application.

Jim asked if the developer addressed the issues of parking and access. O.J. said that they did not, but they are going to come up with a plan.

The elevation of the project related to flooding was discussed. O.J. said that under 100% loading, and a 25% safety factor, the lowest point of the gondola would still be 13 feet above the river.

The developer stated that they weren't putting towers in the river or on the island. They acknowledged that they would be in the floodplain. They stated they would need to confirm FIMA floodplain compliance for any towers in the 100-year floodplain. They might have to trim some trees on the island.

There was concern about who owned the actual island. Timmie requested that the town be sure to verify the ownership of the island.

There were questions about PRLAC's role in all of this. Sherrill pointed out that we should monitor this project and keep records and then when we get a Permit Application, we can submit our comments based on the information we have compiled.

Will suggests that the Lincoln Planning Board request that the State of NH should review the project on the basis of how the project affects the Public Trust Doctrine. He says we as PRLAC have a unique ability to protect the river. We should force the issue and send a letter to NHDES Commissioner outlining our concerns about the project. Will and Timmie will draft a letter.

6. Updates on **River Restoration Task Force Zoom 4/21/26** some people attended this meeting. Sherrill was sent email of PDF of presentation but was unable to send it out to the committee. It might be on YouTube.

7. **VRAP** Plan for 2026 Bill picked up VRAP equipment from NH DES. Bill passed out sampling schedules. He will check with Russ about the 2nd set of equipment.
8. **Privilege of the Floor.** Bill talked about a walk they did about 6 years ago with Max and some other legislatures along the proposed **Riverwalk in Bristol**. There were a lot of issues with the river with wash outs. The project was stalled for many years. Now some developers are fixing things gratis. There had been money received and now there is a plan to complete the project in the next two years.
9. Sherrill entertained a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Lisa 1st, Kathleen seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith L. Faran

Judith L. Faran
Secretary
Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee

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