

Lamprey River Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 20, 2022  
Lee Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road



**APPROVED NOV. 15, 2022**

**Representatives Attending the Meeting in Person:** Joe Foley- chair (Epping), Dick Lord- vice-chair (Durham), Grace Levergood (Northwood) , Tasha Lewis (Lee), Jerry Martin (Newmarket), , Dennis Regan (Lee), Patrick Reynolds (Newmarket), and John Wallace (Barrington)

**Representative Absent:** Jim Brady (Lee), Mary Ann Krebs– treasurer (Durham), Kitty Miller (Lee), Therese Thompson (excused, Raymond), and Peter White (Nottingham).

**Staff Attending by Phone:** Suzanne Petersen

**Staff Present:** Jim MacCartney

**Guest Present:** Duane Hyde, land conservation director, SELT

A quorum was established and Chair Foley opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN:**

**Dick Lord** made a motion that LRAC commit up to \$25,000 from the land protection fund to the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire for the 'Robert Rix Family Forest' in Deerfield, NH.

**Second:** Dennis Regan

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

**Dick Lord** made a motion to move \$10,000 from the operating budget into the land protection fund and for those funds to be spread across unspent 2022 LRAC funds.

**Second:** Dennis Regan

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

**Dick Lord** moved that LRAC reimburse Joe Foley for the \$400 permit fee for the Lee Public Canoe Access and Grace Levergood for the \$25 fee to the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

**Second:** John Wallace

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:                    Approved Unanimously 7-0-0**

- Grace Levergood moved that LRAC expend funds of \$9,000 and to accept the bid of Jerry Fenstermaker, Jafco Excavating, Epping, to repair the Lee Canoe Launch.

Second:    Dennis Regan

Discussion:        None

Vote:                Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

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Land Protection presentation– Duane Hyde, SELT:

Duane Hyde, land conservation director of the SELT is present this evening to discuss a very exciting and generous donation of land in Deerfield from Bill Rix. The property is 81 acres of very well maintained forest (managed by forester Charlie Moreno) with pine-oak forests and hemlock. The property quickly drops to a large wetland system associated with the Lamprey River that is a mix of red maple forested wetlands, scrub shrub, and open wetlands. The pledge terms include: 1) SELT board acceptance of the property, 2) closing by December 31, 2022, 3) SELT will pay for all due diligence including boundary survey, 4) insurable and marketable title, 5) the landowner keeping the land in its current condition, and 6) the property shall be named, “The Robert Rix Family Forest” in honor of Bill’s father. Although Bill is donating the land, there are still project costs and long-term costs that must be funded to complete the project. The estimated budget for these costs related to this land donation is \$111,091. He explained the sources of funding that have been secured, but noted that funding of \$25,000 from LRAC would help SELT meet the remaining need. The members looked at the maps provided and discussed the property characteristics.

Action

Motion:        Dick Lord moved that LRAC commit up to \$25,000 from the land protection fund to the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire for the ‘Robert Rix Family Forest’ in Deerfield, NH.

Second:    Dennis Regan

Discussion:        None

Vote:                Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

Chair Foley asked Suzanne to prepare a commitment letter to SELT for the funds.

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Approval of the Minutes from August 16, 2022:

Action

Motion: Dick Lord moved to accept the minutes of August 16, 2022 as drafted.

Second: John Wallace

Discussion: Grace asked about the Piscassic River running dry below Grant Road that was mentioned in the minutes. Patrick will be glad to show her the location.

Vote: Approved 6-0-1 (Grace Levergood abstained.)

Financial Report:

Mary Ann Krebs was not available this evening, so Chair Foley gave a brief report. LRAC is coming in \$50,000 under expenditures this year. There are commitments for approximately \$15,000. He proposed taking \$10,000 from available remaining LRAC funds and uniformly distribute it from all remaining funds. There was a brief discussion of projects next year. Jim was asked what the budget will be for FY23. Future awards are dependent on annual appropriations by congress. The LRAC should strive to have actuals meet expenditures each year in the 5 year cycle.

Action

Motion: Dick Lord made a motion to move \$10,000 from the operating budget into the land protection fund and for those funds to be spread across all remaining LRAC funds.

Second: Dennis Regan

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

Workgroup Updates continued:

Outreach: Tasha and Dennis reported on their outreach table for the Lee Fair on Sept. 17. Tasha sold two copies of *'Chick and Dee Dee's Lamprey Adventure'* and handed Chair Foley \$20.00 to deposit in the bank. When collecting materials for display and distribution from the storage unit prior to the event, Tasha and Dennis found 6 blue polo shirts with the LRAC logo. They each took one to wear. It was suggested that LRAC should consider ordering more shirts for the members. Kids loved the snake and turtle boards. Tasha would like the members to think of producing a 'Fact Sheet' detailing our projects past, present, and future. The LRAC table was right next to the Lee Conservation Commission folks. She had a productive conversation with the chair of the Lee Conservation Commission, Dawn Genes. Thank you so much Tasha and Dennis!

Chair Foley wanted to make sure that everyone had received the email from Carl Spang, Lamprey River Watershed Association (LRWA), about a zoom meeting/presentation of the Lamprey River Survey results in October.

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1 Unfortunately, his presentation is scheduled for the time of the next LRAC  
2 meeting. Suzanne is inviting Carl to attend the LRAC meeting in November  
3 and to make the presentation.  
4

5 Recreation:

6 Grace reported on the progress for the Lee Canoe Launch. After asking for  
7 several bids, Grace received a bid from Jerry Fenstermaker from Epping.  
8 Grace fulfilled all due diligence to get additional bids, but many were simply  
9 not interested or did not return her inquiries. Mr. Fenstermaker's bid came in  
10 at \$9,000. There is also a \$400 fee for the permit and a \$25 fee (which Grace  
11 has already paid) for the NH Heritage Bureau Report on species of concern  
12 on or near the site. The permit application is complete and requires a  
13 signature from Chair Foley. Once that is done, she will go get signatures from  
14 the Lee Conservation Commission and the Lee town clerk. Joe will write the  
15 \$400 check for the permit to NHDES.

16 Action

17 Motion: Dick Lord moved that LRAC reimburse Joe Foley for the \$400  
18 permit fee for the Lee Public Canoe Access and Grace Levergood for the \$25  
19 fee to the NH Natural Heritage Bureau.

20 Second: John Wallace

21 Discussion: None

22 Vote: Approved Unanimously 7-0-0  
23

24 Action

25 Motion: Grace Levergood moved that LRAC expend funds of \$9,000 to  
26 Jerry Fenstermaker of Jafco Excavating of Epping to repair the Lee Canoe  
27 Launch.

28 Second: Dennis Regan

29 Discussion: None

30 Vote: Approved Unanimously 7-0-0  
31

32 Suzanne will see that the Lee Conservation Commission receives copies of  
33 any files pertaining to the boat access. Thank you Grace for all of your hard  
34 work on this project!  
35

36 Schoppmeyer Park Kayak Launch Update:

37 Patrick spoke with Aimee Gigandet at the Newmarket Rec Dept. She noted  
38 that she gets both negative and positive comments about the launch. The  
39 Rec Department does not have anyone who has a lot of expertise with the  
40 system. She is going to speak with Peter Sawtell at Seven Rivers Paddling.  
41 The members discussed outfitters running paddle board trips at Piscassic-  
42 Loiselle. There is not a great deal of parking available because it is located in  
43 a cul-du-sac. There is also an issue with folks building fire pits there.  
44 Hopefully, Newmarket will bring proposed projects to LRAC for funding! It was  
45 also suggested that we offer our possibly buying an additional kayak rack for

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the town to use to rent spaces for on site storing of privately owned kayaks.

### History:

Dennis and Dick had a great meeting with the Lee Historical Society about Wadleigh Falls. They brought along 11x7 pictures of all the kiosks that LRAC has built and handed out copies of our recreation map. LHS was excited and Dick offered to help in any way to work with them to submit a proposal for the small grants program. Dennis is the point person for this project.

### Wildlife:

Kitty is not present this evening. Patrick has agreed to take a look at helping her with this workgroup.

### Water Quality:

Tasha spoke about the SOAK program at the last meeting. (Soak Up the Rain New Hampshire (SOAKNH) is a voluntary program managed by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.) The goal is to engage home and small business owners to do their part to help protect and restore clean water in the state's lakes, streams, and coastal waters from the negative impacts of stormwater pollution.

Suzanne had mentioned Osher Life Long Learning classes. Tasha is trying to get some clarity on projects for FY 2023 to help with water quality. It all ties into the management plan.

Dick Lord had some problems with the idea from Michelle Shattuck to hire their data manager of \$18,238 for six months to produce a web page with real-time sensor data from the Wiswall site. Dick suggested that perhaps instead it might make a good project for a UNH computer science student, that we could fund at considerably less cost. The Chair said he would rather spend that money on purchasing more land. Jim MacCartney mentioned the [ArcGIS basemap](https://udel.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4bd6252384a44beca0105e5ed4cd64d0) of the White Clay Creek watershed hosted online by the University of Delaware for members to view.

<https://udel.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4bd6252384a44beca0105e5ed4cd64d0>.

### Other:

1) Chair Foley mentioned that LRAC has been remiss in not adopting a Lamprey River Advisory Committee Procurement Policy and Procedures document. The members reviewed the document from the Lamprey River Watershed Association and found one thing to change in Section 4 under Code of Conduct. The end of line two should read "...having a monetary value over \$100 from a vendor..." Jim MacCartney mentioned that the Park Service might suggest additional modifications to make in the procurement policy, but it is likely to occur next year.

### Action

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Motion: Patrick Reynolds moved that LRAC adopt the Procurement Policy and Procedures document with the correction to Section 4 under Code of Conduct. The end of line two should read "...having a monetary value over \$100 from a vendor..."

Second: Dick Lord

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

2) Therese was not present this evening. She is in Candia making a presentation to the conservation commission about LRAC.

**3) Invitation to Join the Statewide Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC):**

If any members have time, please contact Nisa Marks ([nisa.m.marks@des.nh.gov](mailto:nisa.m.marks@des.nh.gov)).

4) The NPS Partners of Wild and Scenic Rivers will be hosting a gathering in December in Florida. If anyone is interested on attending they should decide before early October.

Management Plan:

The NHDES is creating a guide to preparing a management plan and it will be released soon.

**4. Other Business**

Dennis asked about a question he was asked at the Lee Fair. Why is water being drawn from the Lamprey for the Durham water supply? Dick explained the history of where the water for Durham was taken. It is a combination of the Lamprey River, the Oyster River, and a well in Lee. They take water from the Lamprey when the river is running high and pump it into the Spruce Hole Kettle Bog to help refill the aquifer. There are very strict restrictions on the amount of water that can be pumped from the Lamprey during drought conditions.

**5. Upcoming Events**

a. Outreach, Recreation, History, and Wildlife Workgroups meeting, October 12, 10:00 AM, Newmarket Public Library or by phone.

b. Little River Trail celebration, October 15, 2022 at 10:00 AM

c. SELT Trail Fest, October 15, 10:00-2:00. Burley Farms, Epping

d. Next LRAC meeting October 18, 7:00 PM, Lee Public Safety Complex

**6. Adjourn**

Action

Motion: Dick Lord made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 PM.

Second: Dennis Regan

Discussion: None

Vote: Approved Unanimously 7-0-0

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3 Respectfully submitted,

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5 Sue Frick, interim recording secretary