



BOSCAWEN  
BOW  
CANTERBURY  
CONCORD  
FRANKLIN  
NORTHFIELD

UMRLAC, PO Box 3019, Boscawen, NH 03303

UMRLAC Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2011  
Bow Town Hall

*Members present:* Michele Tremblay (Boscawen), Steve Landry (Boscawen), Gary Lynn (Bow), Krista Crowell (Bow), Harry Anderson (Northfield), Bill Dawson (Northfield), Nancy Roy (Canterbury), Nita Tomaszewski (Franklin), Donna Liolis (Franklin), Tucker Noack (Franklin), Rick Chormann (Concord) and David Kirkpatrick (Bow)

*Members absent:* Robert Sharon (Franklin) and Anne Emerson (Canterbury)

The Chair of UMRLAC, Michele Tremblay, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. UMRLAC voted to accept the consent agenda except items C and E. After a brief discussion Item C was revised to indicate that Nancy and Anne should contact Vanessa (CNHRPC) to schedule a buffer study presentation. Item E. was changed to note that the March 19<sup>th</sup> date should actually be March 16<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be held in Canterbury on **February 14<sup>th</sup>**.

#### Treasurer's Report

Krista provided the December Treasurer's report and UMRLAC voted to accept the report and place it on file. Michele requested reimbursement for the bug night mailing (poster printing, stamps and yearbook). UMRLAC agreed to reimburse her for \$410.50 in costs. The City of Concord is the only outstanding UMRLAC support payment; all other municipalities have provided their payments.

#### Membership

David Kirkpatrick was welcomed as the newest member of UMRLAC. David has a degree in Journalism and worked for Camp Dresser and McKee (an environmental consulting firm) in Montana before moving to Bow. He likes fly fishing and kayaking.

#### Guest Presentation

Steve suggested that it would be good to have a speaker from New Hampshire Fish and Game discuss their recently published Wildlife Action Plan (WAP). Steve will contact Emily Brunkhurst and invite her to speak at our Canterbury meeting next month.

#### Wild and Scenic River

Nothing new has happened related to Wild and Scenic River designation; Jan McClure (City Council) and Becky Hebert (Concord Conservation Commission) are tasked with determining how Concord should proceed. UMRLAC will send its comments discussed last month on how we intend to use any funds that are obtained from designation to these two individuals.

### Permits and Proposals

PSNH has requested a wetland permit for the replacement of their rickety wooden staircase below the Garvin Falls dam with a sturdier aluminum staircase. The stairs are needed for access to a weir that is located on an island just below the dam. Some wetland filling will be required to construct concrete piers for the stairs and causeway. Dave noted that the Bow Conservation Commission supports the proposal. UMLAC agrees in principle with the project but will send a letter with several questions. UMLAC would like to know whether the planned sand bag diversion will dry out the small bypass channel (100% versus partial diversion) and impact wildlife in the channel as a result. UMLAC will also ask about how PSNH will handle flooding and debris jams that might impact a higher profile, more permanent structure.

### Merrimack River Management Plan Review

UMLAC's River Management Plan was discussed. Michele indicated that she will track legislation for this year (Plan Item WQ-1). A variety of bills have been filed on wetlands (e.g., a proposed bill would eliminate wetland permits if an alteration of terrain permit is obtained) as well as shoreland protection. UMLAC will work on a report on river water quality with EcoAnalyst assistance (Plan Item WQ-3). The minimum instream flow study for the Souhegan and Lamprey rivers will probably be extended. The Merrimack River minimum instream flow study won't start until those studies are completed so SF-1 (Merrimack River stream flow study) will be delayed. Rick noted that the Army Corps of Engineers has completed a study on Merrimack River flow allocation and that their work provides some useful information. There was a discussion on SC-1 (erosion issues) and the Boscawen rope swing erosion project was revisited. UMLAC was unable to raise enough money to fix this erosion problem and no one stepped forward to implement our offer of funding a gate to limit site access. UMLAC discussed the Phase II hazard assessment grant for the Turkey and Soucook Rivers. This is a pre-disaster mitigation grant and it looks at issues such as fluvial erosion, flooding hazards, etc. As part of the grant, stream crossings will be inventoried and assessed for hazards. The grant will help make progress on the erosion control objective in the plan. Finally, UMLAC discussed the recreational component of the plan. Michele suggested that UMLAC could update the recreational map that is in the plan.

### Miscellaneous

- 1) Nancy will be the website reviewer for January.
- 2) Nita will be the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail administrator for the Franklin piece of the rails to trails project. UMLAC volunteered to be the fiscal agent, if that would be helpful. The rails to trails group is applying for a \$30K DRED recreational trail program grant to complete the trail segment from Benson Auto to Punch Brook Road.
- 3) Bill asked if UMLAC will send anyone to the Watershed Conference in Plymouth on March 11. Michele indicated that UMLAC will vote on any proposal that is brought forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by Gary Lynn