

Oyster River Local Advisory Committee Minutes of Meeting of June 11, 2012

Members Present: Eric Fiegenbaum, Bob Eckert, John Wallace, Jim Hornbeck, Tom Falk, Dave Shay

Approval of Previous Minutes: Previous meeting minutes for March and April were approved.

ORLAC did not meet May 14, as scheduled, due to the lack of a quorum.

New Business:

- The planning of a walking/driving tour of the Oyster River with Dick Weyrick was discussed. Eric F. will set up an online Doodle pole to schedule the tour within the next two weeks.
- Eric F. mentioned that he added new Right-to-Know posting on the ORLAC website.
- Discussed the possibility of this fall co-sponsoring, with the OR Watershed Assoc., a mini-series on nitrogen in Great Bay. Potential speakers mentioned were Michelle Daley (UNH Department of Natural Resources & Environment), Dean Peschel (Municipal Coalition), and Peter Wellenberger (TNC). Bob E. suggested asking PREP as a possible presenter. Steve Jones and Dave Burdick (both Jackson Lab) were mentioned as potential speakers; Dave S. will inquire.
- Discussion ensued regarding studies investigating the non-point sources of nitrogen to Great Bay (e.g. Nitrogen Sources Collaborative Advisory Board)
- Discussed the shortened timeline for DES Shoreland Protection Act project applications and how it affects LAC's comment period. For example, what if comment period occurs before a monthly LAC meeting. Discussed was a possible workaround to have three volunteers (or Chair appointed members) hold a special public meeting and, with comments from the rest of the LAC, review the application and write a response letter. The response letter then will go to the LAC Chair for final approval and posted on the LAC website. This process will be refined and adopted at the next LAC meeting.
- Discussed ways to be proactive and get ahead of the application comment process while waiting for DES to write a letter to towns requesting LAC notification of permit applications in the OR corridor. Eric F. suggested that, for now, we rely on individual LAC members' knowledge as members of local conservation commissions, planning boards, etc. John Wallace suggested receiving town planning board agendas and forming relationships with building inspectors.
- Discussed Julianne Boucher's appointment status as she may no longer work for the UNH/Durham Water Department. Eric F. will inquire about her status.
- Eric F. asked members for ideas for an LAC brochure. Eric F. will ask Julianne B. what has been done so far.
- John W. presented the major elements of the Lamprey River Floodplain Workshop he attended June 1. He mentioned that increased episodes of 100-year storms, increased development in the Lamprey River watershed, and more accurate data of floodplain area indicate a much larger floodplain than that designated on the FEMA maps. A discussion ensued.
- Eric F. said that the OR Management Plan is a priority for the LAC and suggested that the PREP Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan and other LAC plans be used as templates. Possibly incorporating GIS in the plan to develop data layers to identify sensitive "hot spots" in the corridor was discussed.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Next Meeting: July 9, 2012

Submitted By _____
David Shay