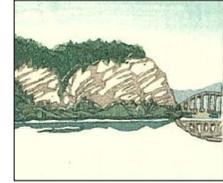


# **UPPER VALLEY RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE**



## MEETING MINUTES (UNAPPROVED)

Monday, November 21, 2011

Members Present: Lynn Bohi, David Kotz, Cy Severance, Linda Matteson, Steve Stocking, Carl Schmidt, Mary Daly, Joan Monroe, Nancy Jones, Caryl Collier, Marc White (Chair)

Also Present: Rachel Ruppel, CRJC/UVLSRPC

Introductions were made.

Follow-up from the previous meeting - The floating dock in Hanover does not need to be set back 50 feet, as it is not a primary structure. The family proposing a 4<sup>th</sup> bedroom addition to their home has an approved septic system for 5 bedrooms.

Minutes from the Sept. 19, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Joan Monroe reported that the CRJC met today, and reported on items of interest for the UVRSC – a scrutiny of the monthly financial reports, the update to the 5-year strategic plan to make it “leaner and meaner.” Monroe also reported that the Riverbend subcommittee is co-sponsoring Jay Aube to come speak at a public meeting on 12/15/11 in Littleton; North Country Council and Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee (LAC) are the other co-sponsors. The UVRSC suggested that it would be helpful to host a similar session in the Upper Valley area; Ruppel noted that the Mascoma River LAC and UVLSRPC may be interested in co-sponsoring. Ruppel will try to schedule this for January.

Marc White was also present at the meeting and reported on the presentation by river engineer for VT Agency of Natural Resources – many emergency repairs may not have addressed long-term issues and may not have been done correctly as there was limited oversight due to the emergency situation. Marc’s take-away was that the UVRSC should look into which towns have up-to-date hazard mitigation plans and emergency response plans. It is especially important that vulnerable bridges and culverts are identified.

### Permit Review:

Town of Lyme - River Road riverbank stabilization. This project would reconstruct 1,100 feet of the roadway where serious riverbank erosion has undermined the integrity of the road. It is not possible to simply relocate the road inland, as there is a conservation easement on one of the properties, which does not allow development. The riverbank is very steep and composed of fine silts, prone to erosion when saturated.

The proposed reconstruction shifts the roadway 30 ft inland and creates stabilization using stone fill at the base of the excavation, then a slope of riprap overplanted with shrubs and trees, and a

guardrail at the top of the slope. There is also a drainage system to prevent runoff directly from the road into the river; the drainage system has a catch basin to collect sediment.

The UVRSC had the following comments, which Ruppel will incorporate into a letter:

- 1) A question of whether the trees will grow up and tip over/tear out the bank – would short-growing trees be better?
- 2) Catch basins will need to be maintained. The UVRSC is glad to see the drainage improvements.
- 3) The UVRSC commends the applicant on its use of geotextile fabric and of plantings of grass, trees and shrubs.
- 4) The UVRSC thanks the applicant's engineer for meeting with the subcommittee.

The UVRSC also asked that the application materials be forwarded to Jim Kennedy, who was absent from this meeting, and to request any additional comments from him as a follow-up to the UVRSC letter.

Other Business:

Monroe remarked that both New Hampshire and Vermont are working on expanding broadband Internet; the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission is convening a group of New Hampshire stakeholders on 12/7/11.

Schmidt reported that the Orford Conservation Commission made a public presentation of their Natural Resources Inventory last Friday and passed a copy of the Inventory around the group. Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission assisted with the creation of this report.

The next meeting date will be determined for January, to be coordinated with the Mascoma River LAC and Jay Aube from the NH Shoreland Program. The UVRSC will meet the third Monday of every other month.