

**Upper Valley Subcommittee
Minutes**

Monday, October 17, 2022 – 6:00 PM Meeting
Hybrid Meeting - Latham Library, Downstairs, 16 Library Rd, Thetford, VT

Attendance

NH Members:	Attendance
Alice Creagh, Hanover	X
Vacancy, Hanover	
Eric Agterberg, Lebanon	P
Ruth Bleyler, Lebanon	X
Bruce Garland, Lebanon (alt)	P
Bill Malcolm, Lyme	P
Vacancy, Lyme	
Ted Cooley, Orford	V
Carl Schmidt, Orford	X
Vacancy, Piermont	
Vacancy, Piermont	

VT Members:	Attendance
Vacancy, Bradford	
Vacancy, Bradford	
Ben Dana, Fairlee	P
Vacancy, Fairlee	
David Barrell, Hartford	X
Lynn Bohi, Hartford	P
Bill Bridge, Thetford	P
Linda Matteson, Thetford	P
Chet Clem, Norwich	X
Vacancy, Norwich	

Note: P = present in person; V = present over remote virtual platform; X = not present

Attending Virtually: Kate Buckman (River Steward, Connecticut River Conservancy); Olivia Uyizeye (Staff, UVLSRPC).

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Bill Malcolm starts the meeting at 6:10PM. Chair Malcolm conducts a roll call of LAC members, invited guests to introduce themselves, and welcomed all present.

2. Meeting Minutes August

Malcolm opens the August minutes for review.

The minutes are passed unanimously with an edit to correct the date by Bohi/Agterberg.

3. Permit Review

- a. Prospect St. Hartford, General Permit, 42-unit building.**
Full details: <https://enb.vermont.gov/?id=18471>
Recommended article: Valley News, Oct 5, "Housing Project on Track to add 42 apartments in White River Junction"

Bohi – area of interest for this permits is located across from Listen center. Two more buildings are located behind it, away from Route 14. This one is closest to the river. The proposal includes two buildings with walkways in between. There is a stormwater retention pond and attention paid to soils on site. The site is on public water and sewer.

Bohi – Thinks it would be good to comment to remind VT that CRJC is present and observing. Would like to see it "thoroughly done".

Malcolm – asks about the process in VT regarding who reviews first. Matteson responds saying the procedure does not matter except that ACT 250 permits would be last, which is not required for this work.

Agterberg – Could comment saying they did a good job.

Bohi – Did a hydrology study and soils review. We felt it was satisfactory to us.

Comment letter approved by Bohi/Cooley with comments reflecting that the permit was reviewed and the LRS appreciated the thoughtfulness of the plan.

b. Lebanon NHDOT Rt12A Bridge

Garland – explains that at present a Train uses this bridge a couple times a week, if that. As a community, this costs 15 million dollars over a railroad that services few trains. The number of trains that justify this bridge is a concern.

Bohi – the railroads do not give up their property easily.

Malcolm – the state still owns the right of way?

Garland – yes.

Uyizeye – The applicant has indicated they will share the permit details. They are still waiting to submit the permit to NHDES and have offered to attend the next LRS meeting. A few things the LRS may wish to pay attention include the connection point to bank, drainage, signage if pedestrian/bike access.

Buckman – Suggests comments do not have to pertain to water quality, you are well within your right to ask those questions relevant to recreation, etc.

Malcolm asks Uyizeye to follow up with the applicant and invite them to the next meeting before any comment is decided.

4. Updates & Other Business

Agterberg reports on the river cleanup.

Malcolm reminds members that someone will need to facilitate the meeting at any point he is unable to attend.

Malcolm notes concerns for membership and a need for recruitment and outreach to members who have been less active.

Cooley reports that the Route 10 work in Orford is well underway. The area is torn up. It will be interesting to see how that works out.

5. Adjourn

By motion of Garland/Bohi the meeting is adjourned, approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Uyizeye.