

# WARNER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

<https://www.wrlac.com/>

## MINUTES - Approved at an in-person meeting on July 27, 2022

Wednesday, 22 June 2022

7:00 p.m.

(on Zoom)

**Appointed WRLAC Representatives** present in **bold** (term ends):

**George Embley**, Webster (07-08-2024)

Dan Morrissey, Hopkinton (02-09-2025)

Marlene Freyler, Bradford (08-16-2024)

**Dan Moran**, Webster (09-03-2022)

**Patti Furness**, Bradford (07-33-2024)

J. Michael Norris, Hopkinton (11-26-2024)

Mike Howley, Bradford (06-22-2024)

Laura Russell, Warner (11-26-2024)

Andy Jeffrey, Sutton (07-29-2022)

**Peter Savickas**, Sutton (08-19-2022)

**Ken Milender**, Warner (11-26-2024)

**Christopher Spannweitz**, Warner (11-26-2024)

**Member of the Public:** Ken Cogswell, Warner Conservation Commission

### *New Business*

1. Meeting minutes tabled due to lack of quorum
2. Treasurer's Report
  - a. IRS Form 990 is not necessary to be completed because the Committee's income is below the threshold of \$7,500.
  - b. Bank balance is unchanged.

### *Continuing Business.*

1. Volunteer River Assessment Program (Chair)
  - a. Chair performed the June 4th monitoring with Merrimack River Watershed Council, who will continue the monitoring this year. We did receive a handful of volunteers (Thanks, George!! . . . Thanks, Andy!!), and we have put them in touch with the Merrimack River Watershed Council.
  - b. The results of the survey looked good for the river..
  - c. The Merrimack River Watershed Council has an open invitation to present their findings to us at one of our early fall meetings.
2. New permit applications: None this month
3. Mid-Year Status Report (Chair): Review our 2022 goals and objectives and see if we're making progress.
  - a. *6.1.7-1: Publicize the importance of the Davisville Gauging Station*
    - i. Dan Morrissey and Mike Norris provided Ken with a draft of a write-up for meeting this goal. To be continued.
  - b. Wetlands protection ordinances - In order to learn about how groups like WRLAC can encourage towns to adopt wetlands protection ordinances, Ken will invite Webster's

conservation commission chair to speak about that commission's experience so far with Webster's selectboard. Ken Milender also told Ken Cogswell that Ken Milendar will be contacting Warner's Conservation Commission to talk about next steps. This would relate to WRLAC's goal *6.6.1-2 Encourage towns to enact stringent wetlands and surface water protection ordinances with buffer requirements.*

4. Housekeeping (Chair): Chair has reorganized and tidied up things just a bit – Reps should keep an eye on our Long-Term Monitoring Table down below for upcoming topics for discussion as these come up for renewed discussion and attention
  - a. Additions to long-term monitoring list - Warner Village Sewer Project, Reps' Reads list, speakers' series, Community Events calendar.
5. [Community Events Calendar](#): Continued planning for the next wave of possible public appearances.
  - a. Bradford - July 2 family festival at Sweet Beet: Kearsarge Food Hub - Aim for 2023!
  - b. Bradford - Old Home Day in September
  - c. Sutton - Old Home Day: August 23-24; format to be determined. Pete is not sure that this event is the kind of event we are looking for.
  - d. New London - Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners
  - e. LSPA - Love Your Lakes Day - Should we be involved since Lake Sunapee is not in the Warner River corridor and watershed? Probably not a great use of our time to commit a booth, and although it could be a good place for visibility, it's important to keep our sights on our mission.
    - i. Newbury Old Home Day? - Perhaps! They have similar goals to ours. Can we put up a flyer in any of the Lake Sunapee gathering spots?
  - f. Hopkinton Fair - George will check with Ben to see if we can join TU.
  - g. July 9 - Lake Massasecum Association Annual Meeting - Patty would like to have a booth there so she can greet folks.
  - h. Warner Farmer's Market on Saturdays? Chris will look into this.
  - i. How to prepare for community events
    - i. Banner (Laura has it.)
    - ii. Create a standard flier with a QR code that would take folks to the WRLAC website. Laura has [drafted one](#) that can be printed out and inserted into a plexiglass picture frame.
    - iii. Trifold poster
    - iv. Binder of maps
    - v. Corridor Management Plan - Maybe just the headlines?
6. Warner Village Precinct (Chair): News on this front has been quiet. Chair to resurrect this controversy and update with our game plan. Chair to review for the benefit of new reps.
  - a. The treated effluent from the village that is discharged into the river has higher levels of copper that is legally allowed. DES likes to inject the treated effluent into the stratified drift in order to dilute the copper level (in this case). This strategy, while an accepted practice, is of concern to this Committee, and we sent a [letter to Ray Martin](#) (May 16,

2019) (as well as DES, Warner selectboard?), outlining the concerns of transferring pollution source from a surface water body to groundwater body, as well as the aquifer. The Village has purchased the discharge land, but they may not have permits at this time.

- b. Ken will contact Ray Martin to find out what the status of the project is and ask them to address our questions.
  - c. This project seems to connect to some of WRLAC's goals.
    - i. Perhaps 6.1.6-3? *Encourage municipal governments to reduce their water use, employ conservation measures and implement actions which promote the protection of the Warner River corridor's water quality and low levels.*
7. Next Meeting and Quorum Votes (Chair and Vice): We're moving closer to a 1-time, in-person quorum to make legal some of our non-quorum votes over the past year, and we expect this will be our July meeting.
- a. Laura assembled [the list of votes we'll need](#) to make things legal.
  - b. A hybrid style is also a possibility if we hold the meeting at Warner's Pillsbury Library. (Virtual attendees cannot vote, though.)
  - c. Location - Vice Chair's place is available for the July meeting.
  - d. Chair proposes that we take August off. We will decide at the July meeting.

#### *Other Notes*

- Ken has contacted DES to see if they can present about in-stream flow study. Hopefully, this can be a "field trip" at the Davisville Gauge.
- Thanks to Ken Cogswell for his attendance. He will be sending us information about what the Con Comm is doing with regard to the groundwater ordinance.

#### *New Business, Part 2 [Our "If We Have Time" Series]*

1. New Hampshire Watersheds Map.
2. Warner River Watershed conditions (river gage, observation well, etc.).

Next meeting: Weds, July 27, 7 PM - Location to be determined.