

**Souhegan Local Advisory Committee  
Milford Police Department  
January 18, 2024**

In attendance were Cory Ritz (New Ipswich,) Cam Lockwood (Temple,) Marion Kastner (Amherst,) Marshall Buttrick (Greenville,) Peter Howd (Wilton,) Rich Hart (Amherst,) Nelson Disco (Merrimack,) George May (Merrimack,) Celeste Barr (Milford,) Peter Howd (Wilton,) and Kleta Dudley (New Ipswich.)

Guest was Emma Rearick, NRPC

**December Minutes Approved**

**Old Business**

**All Annual reports submitted**

**Fairway Properties**-shoreland permit was issued.

Waiting to see what happens with the AOT. Fairway has been awarded a contract with Eversource for New Hampshire and maybe Maine and Massachusetts.

Multiple town entities have been in touch with with Fairway in regards to the fact that they are in violation for activity on their property. They have poured cement pads where they should not have and have built infrastructure without permission. The lawyer and the

engineers were at the Wilton Planning Board meeting Wednesday, January 17. Fairway now wants to turn front lots into a Bucket truck parking lot. They will be back before the Planning Board with a proposal to create temporary Stormwater solutions and temporary parking lot on lot 4 behind building, Peter was not sure how the town would receive this but assured us that all entities in town were aware of need to protect aquifer.

Their AOT application made no sense. They are under enforcement action from DES for application being only for 2 lots. Peter's feeling is that the Lawyer and Engineer expect the project to be larger than presented. They need oil separators in parking lots.

**Dog Park-**The engineer and Lincoln got the letter we sent and would take into account our comments. Celeste thought that the water was 8 feet above gage during the December 18<sup>th</sup> storm.

### **New Business**

**Milford WWTP Upgrades-** Cory related the upgrades. Celeste commented how well run and forward planning the plant is. The director has a proactive approach. Rich questioned the increase in volume of waste in the last 25 years and the reduced amount of flow in the river and how it impacts how they operate. Celeste thought that

was part of the application. They do not want to impact the flood plain or wetlands. Cory will send a letter thanking them.

**Hitchiner Manufacturing Co., Inc. Hazardous Waste Limited Permit (LP) Modification-** Application for a proposed filtration process (i.e., Wastewater Treatment Unit) to be located at the Metal Casting Technology (MCT) building at Hitchiner's Elm Street Complex where the polishing is done. Modification will result in the decrease of nickel in the water that is sent to the Town of Milford's wastewater treatment plant, by adding a bank of filters to an industrial process by the Town's request. Hitchiner's existing permit must be modified to add this wastewater treatment, resulting in this application. The town of Milford requested this filtration system. We thought this seemed like a good idea. Nelson asked about the system. It is a 3 stage filtration system and Hitchiner will have to deal with the spent filters.

**Watershed Corridor Management Plan-**Emma Rearick from NRPC brought an enlarged map of the Souhegan. Each town updated points of interest (cultural and Historical,) boat launches etc. on the map. We will continue to build features in the future. We would like

to capture the history around the River and note problem areas (natural and manmade.)

## **Local Updates**

**SWA-**Need to decide what to do about water testing. There was discussion about the canoe and kayak paddling program.

**New Ipswich-** Although it did not fall within the jurisdiction of the protected River, there was another unpermitted driveway incident, this one at Pratt Pond adjacent to their dam.

**Greenville-**Request for a continuance on the Drug Rehabilitation Site Plan is ongoing. Marshall reported that no one at the EPA could share any information regarding the last violation by Pilgrim Food which resulted in 15 officers visiting the facility.

**Temple-** Nothing to report

**Wilton-** Peter reported that Bill Mahar has resigned from the Conservation Commission and is looking for a replacement for his position at SoRLAC. We have been remiss in not getting a card out to him following his broken hip. Peter will bring in a card for us to sign.

There was a UNH stream ecology program that Peter was involved with that brought Docents into local schools that has been shut down because of budget cuts. One of the participants that was laid off has taken a position in Goffstown at the UNH Cooperative Extension Office. She is very interested and enthusiastic about continuing the education of area youth. Peter would like to invite her to speak at one of our meetings. She is responsible for having trained a number of teachers that teach in the area.

**Milford**-Celeste reported that Jaclyn Hodgkins the S.T.E.A.M Coordinator at the Souhegan Valley Boys' and Girls' Club is interested in joining SoRLAC. (She is starting a Sustainability Program for students that will include aquatic resources). Jackie though originally from this area currently resides in Goffstown. Since she works on the Souhegan River, she has an interest in it. She is also pursuing a degree in environmental education. SoRLAC can nominate her even though Goffstown is not a town the River runs through. A small portion of the town is part of the watershed.

Rich said that the Souhegan High School Seniors have to do a Senior Science Project and that we should

think about how we might could use them. Celeste suggested some research on the Native American Joe English (for whom the hill is named would be a good project.) He was very prominent in the Souhegan and Merrimack River watershed.

Celeste has been researching the archeological files at the State for information on the Native American burial site unearthed on floodplain of the Souhegan River where Hayward Farms was in 1980s. Another visit to the State Archives will take place soon.

This information would be useful for the signage we would like to have to present the historical aspects of the River.

Celeste met with Tyson Morrill the Restoration Project Manager of the Merrimack Watershed Council about possible riverbank restoration activities that could take place on the Souhegan River. They met with the Milford Conservation Committee on a section of the Souhegan River Trail in Milford. They hope to employ Coir logs and other simple procedures to secure erosional embankments and slopes. The object is to deter people and dogs from creating erosional problem areas along the river. Tyson has offered to pay for the plants and will be in touch with Celeste.

**Amherst-** nothing to report

**Merrimack-**The trail in Merrimack had a ground breaking in November and is finally under construction. Due to weather, the progress is slow but they got a lot done before winter shut it down.

Metal plates are going away and the sidewalk along Route 3 will be fixed. They are laying some timbers to support heavy equipment to lay foundation for walkway.

Submitted Jan, 23, 2024 by Kleta Dudley, sec.  
Next meeting at Milford Police Facility, 7:00 p.m Feb  
15. 2024