



WARNER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

MINUTES

Wednesday, 13 November 2024

7:00 p.m.

Pillsbury Free Library, Warner, NH

2025 WRLAC Meetings	
Weds., January 29, 2025	Weds., July 23, 2025
Weds., March 26, 2025	Weds., September 24, 2025
Weds., May 28, 2025	Weds., November 19, 2025

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

Mickey Benson, Warner ()

Marlene Freyler, Bradford (08-16-2027)

Rebecca Herman, Bradford (09-25-2026)

Bob MacGowan, Webster (04-19-2027)

Dan Morrissey, Hopkinton (02-07-2025)

Laura Russell, Warner (04-01-2025)

Peter Savickas, Sutton (08-19-2025)

Christopher Spannweitz, Warner (11-26-2024)

Trout Unlimited Rep: **Greg Swick**

New Business

1. Due to a lack of a quorum, we will approve the meeting minutes for [June 26, 2024](#) and [August 28, 2024](#) (as well as these minutes) at the January 22, 2025 meeting.
2. Treasurer's report – No report
3. New permit applications
 - a. Encore solar energy facility – Poverty Plains Rd, Warner; alteration of terrain permit – Chair Dan shared the extensive plan documents provided by the applicants.

- i. Discussion raised several comments and questions: is there an end-of-life policy for the panels, is the area flood prone, the soil looks very porous, which has both benefits (ex: quick absorption of floodwaters) and drawbacks (ex: easy absorption of possible chemicals into water table and into the river), the project seems to be in Warner's new Groundwater Protection Ordinance overlay district, what kind of erosion mitigation will be added, is the proposed filtration basin going to be effective enough, how are panels protected from damage and breakage, is there access for emergency/fire, is there potential for wind damage.
 - ii. In general, the Committee felt that the applicant has very good plans for mitigating environmental impacts. Chair Dan will write a letter encouraging attention to those mitigations. He will also try to arrange a site visit.
 - iii. [Secretary's notes: On 12/3 Dan and Laura visited the site with the landowner and NH engineer Tom D'Aguiar. Also, Dan has drafted a letter with recommendations and reminders about BMPs].
 - b. Property located at 966 NH Rte 103 – Permit for Shoreland permit to rebuild the home from 3BR to 5 BR. The property is near the river on the other side of Rt 103. The committee discussed the following: the location of a culvert to the river, the proposed leach field, which look like it's within the shoreland area. However, the committee did not see any red flags. Dan will draft a letter to DES emphasizing the importance of following BMPs.
 - i. [Secretary's note: Here is [the letter](#), dated November 26, 2024.]
- 4. Other New Business
 - a. Yearly election of officers – Due to a lack of quorum, the election will take place at the next meeting on January 22, 2025. All current officers (chair, treasurer, and secretary) are willing to serve another term. Chair Dan noted that we could really use a **vice chair** and would like someone to step forward for that role.
 - b. For our information from NH DES: [Env-Wq 1700 Rulemaking Notice and Initial Proposal Filed and Posted](#) (Chair)
 - c. Begin a plan for a review of the [Warner River Corridor Management Plan](#). The committee discussed reviewing one section at a time at subsequent meetings. **It would be helpful to have a different person lead each review.**
 - i. Mickey volunteered to lead the review of Section 6.4.
 - ii. Laura will lead the review of Section 6.1 at the January 22 meeting.
 - iii. Here's just the "[Appendix B](#)" separated from the complete corridor management plan.
 - iv. This document [Warner River Corridor Management Plan Headlines](#) is a summary of the goals, objectives, and action items the committee wrote in 2020.
 - v. The document [Committee Interests](#) was an attempt to prioritize and assign tasks. It may be useful to see what the committee was thinking before we make updates and revisions.
 - d. Other new business

- i. Rebecca reported that the 2024 VRAP sample results are being reviewed for QA/QC, and they will be published in the spring or summer of 2025.

Continuing Business

1. Continuing permit applications
 - a. 24 High Street, Bradford. [DES Wetland Permit 2024-02153](#) request for more information in letter dated July 30, 2024. No update.
 - b. Breezy Hill - Letter from DES requesting update on restoration activities.
2. Concord Lake Sunapee Rail Trail – Begin drafting possible questions for the CLSRT's next public listening session. It is important for this committee to weigh in. The comments and slides from the community meeting in July are posted on the CLSRT's website (scroll down to "[7/18/24](#)").
 - a. Action Item for all committee members: **PLEASE SEND DAN ASAP any questions you think would be helpful to ensure that this project continues to provide careful attention to its environmental impacts on the river.**
3. Instream Flow Water Management Plan is being worked on by DES; they will have information about it some time in 2025. Here is the [Instream Flow Study](#), which will be informing the management plan. Discussion: With the continued drought conditions, it has been difficult to good data. For the time being, this committee will consider this project as "Long-Term Monitoring" (see below).
4. Warner Village Water District update – Dan will contact Ray, as this committee really would like to provide support.
5. Public Events: TU & WRLAC at the Warner Fall Foliage Festival, October 11-13, 2024 – Saturday was a good-weather day, and it was reported that several folks stopped by to learn about aquatic bugs, fly-tying, and the overall work of TU and WRLAC. Sunday's rainy and cold weather had a "dampening effect" on traffic, and only a few people stopped by.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7 PM, Warner Pillsbury Free Library's lower meeting room

Respectfully submitted,
 Laura Russell, Secretary

Long-Term Monitoring

FEMA Risk MAP Contoocook Basin	Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail
Warner River Water Management Plan [successor to 2023's protected instream flow study]	Ballard Brook (Warner) Restoration
Warner Village Rapid Wastewater Infiltration Project	Route 127 (Davisville) Bridge Replacement
VRAP Monitoring	