



## WARNER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

### MINUTES

Wednesday, May 28, 2025

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 (02-24-2028)

**Marlene Freyler**, Bradford (08-16-2027)

**Rebecca Herman**, Bradford (09-25-2026)

**Bob MacGowan**, Webster (04-19-2027)

**Dan Morrissey**, Hopkinton (2028)

**Laura Russell**, Warner (02-24-2028)

Peter Savickas, Sutton (08-19-2025)

The meeting began at 7:00 PM

#### *New Business*

1. [March 26, 2025 minutes](#) were approved unanimously.
2. Treasurer's report - none
3. Permit - Alteration of Terrain for Route 103E Warner, [Map 7, Lots 39 & 39-1](#), MS Peacock Hill Road, LLC for "[Jennesstown Manor](#)," for 2 conjoined 4-unit apartments
  - a. Dan mentioned the areas of concern that the WRLAC had noted at the last meeting were reflected comprehensively in [a letter from NH DES to the applicants](#). Our concerns included the need for blasting, the wells and septic systems, and drainage calculations. The DES letter is a request for more information.
  - b. The committee discussed whether the project will need approval from the various town agencies (building inspector, conservation commission, planning board)

4. Instream flow study update - A [draft of the instream flow water management plan for the Warner River](#) has been published as well as a [draft of the dam management plan for Blaisdell Lake](#). The plan seeks to provide data for informed decision making and addresses three areas: water conservation, water use changes, and releases from dams. The plan has been sent to dam owners as well as the Warner Village Water District for their review. After public review meetings, there will be a final draft of the plan. Look for it to be completed late this year or next year.

*Old Business*

5. VRAP mapping update – Testing has begun. Rett Weber has put together a fantastic map that would be of interest to the WRLAC. The committee discussed the idea of having him present his project at the our next meeting; Dan will invite him.
6. CATCH Housing project update – On April 9, the Warner ZBA noted several "regional concerns" and voted to delay the application pending input from the Central NH Regional Planning Commission. The ZBA and the applicants continue to go back and forth about the project's impacts and the requests for a special exception and a variance. [Sec note: See the related documents for this unfolding story on the [ZBA's website](#).]
7. Warner Village Water District – no update
8. Other brief updates
  - a. NH Rivers Council (NH DES) workshop for Local Advisory Committees reports, highlights:
    - i. Laura – The Warner River has very few significant challenges compared to many other rivers in the state.
    - ii. Mickey – The two LACs that shared their process for reviewing permits was informative; sometimes an LAC will engage a third-party expert, such as an engineer, to help the LAC in order to better understand the permit's implications. See examples of permitting processes from two other LACs: the [Saco-Swift River LAC](#) and the [Upper Merrimack River LAC](#).
    - iii. Dan – Some LACs ask towns to provide funding for the LAC to do its work.
  - b. NH F&G/Merrimack Watershed Council/TU tree planting at Ballard Brook – Willow trees were planted along Ballard Brook to support bank stabilization. The next step will be to plant shrubs higher up on the bank. About 25 people from several different constituencies showed up for the morning, making quick work of the planting.
  - c. Trout Unlimited stream monitoring orientation and summer plans – Look for an email from Barb Marty for possible dates to volunteer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The next meeting is Wednesday, July 23, at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Russell  
WRLAC Secretary