

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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MINUTES LRPC COMMISSION MEETING Tri County Cap Office Tamworth, NH April 25, 2016

PRESIDING: Warren Hutchins
QUORUM: Present

CALL TO ORDER: 6:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

LRPC STAFF

Cheryl Cox (Ashland)	Erica Hebert (Administrative Assistant)
David Kerr (Barnstead)	Jeff Hayes (Executive Director)
Mitch Manseau (Hebron)	
Robert Snelling (Holderness)	
Dean Anson II (Laconia)	OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
Warren Hutchins (Laconia)	Wendy Scribner (UNH Forestry)
Barbara Perry (Moultonborough)	Ralph Thompson (Effingham)
Wayne Crowley (Northfield)	Sheldon Perry (Tamworth)
Douglas Reed (Northfield)	Rebecca Boydon (Tamworth)
Ian Raymond (Sanbornton)	Sam Perry (Moultonborough)
Patricia Farley (Tamworth)	David Little (Tamworth)
Stephen Wingate (Tuftonboro)	Kate Nesbit (Tuftonboro)
	Gary Jewell (Effingham)

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Chair W. Hutchins called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m. and declared a quorum present to do business. Introductions were made by those in attendance.

2. **Wendy Scribner, Forrester for UNH Coop-Ex, Carroll County Presentation.**

The Emerald Ash Borer, called the most destructive invasive insect in North America, arrived in New Hampshire in 2013. Infected trees die within 3-5 years, and towns throughout the state can reasonably expect this insect to arrive within the near future. To find more information you can go to www.nhbugs.org.

Questions & Answers:

Q: Has Vermont found the Ash Borer yet?

A: Vermont and Maine have not seen the Ash Borer yet.

Q: Will the Wasps they set up to kill the Ash Borer go after any other types of bugs?

A: No. they will go after the Borer but, an eye is being kept out in case they do.

Q: How are Belknap and Grafton County effected?

A: Belknap and Grafton County are in the alert area (infested).

Q: Is the chemical treatment Topic or Systemic?

A: It is Systemic.

Q: Is this chemical safe for use around Lakes and Rivers?

A: You must be careful around lakes and rivers. Always work with a professional.

Q: Even with all the treatment are we just postponing the inevitable?

A: Biological controls are what they are working on to try to knock back the population while looking for other agents to control and kill off the population of Ash Borer.

Q: Is the chemical expensive?

A: Bensoid costs around \$10 to \$12 per inch of diameter of the tree, so it can be costly.

Q: In areas in the Midwest where 99% of the Ash tree population was wiped out, what happened to the bugs?

A: The population of Ash Borer will crash but will not disappear. Once the trees start to grow back, larger than 2 inches in diameter, the bugs will infest again.

Q: Is the National Forestry involved with campgrounds?

A: All of our forestry divisions are building awareness and monitoring.

Q: Can the bugs survive in dead wood or is it just live trees?

A: They cannot infest dead wood however, once they infest a live tree and it is cut down they can survive.

Q: Does the Wooley Adelgid live on the underside of the trees?

A: Yes, if you are standing on the ground and look up you can see the Adelgid on the bottom sides of the tree branches/leaves.

Q: What about the wood and power companies that use and sell Pellets for heating?

A: The companies would need a compliance agreement. They would have to store the wood that could be infected in a separate area and the chip or burn immediately and during the months of October to May when the adults are not burrowing out and moving.

Q: How closely do the neighboring states work together on this?

A: All of Massachusetts is quarantined. All states work closely with Forestry Health specialists to oversee what happens in New England.

Educating the population should be important, is there a media campaign?

There aren't any major media campaigns but, we are educating through websites and some public service announcements as well as billboards that have information on not moving firewood. There is also a firewood scout website with information.

3. Roundtable.

Laconia parking garage is deteriorating and they have put three million dollars into the repair and revitalization of the downtown parking garage along with a major project to repair and renew the Colonial Theater in downtown. (Hutchins/Laconia)

The conservation commission is working on a project to improve the flow of black brook in Gilford/Laconia. The erosion can put phosphorus into the lake which is creating large amounts of milfoil in the lake. The commission is trying to find ways to have the brook flow naturally without erosion and flooding. Without treating the Milfoil, it can affect the drinking water in the area. There is a public hearing being held on May18 at the City Hall for Laconia and Gilford residents. It is good for the whole community because of the number of lakes and the Paugus bay drinking water. (Anson, Laconia)

With the collaboration of the Laconia and Belmont Fire Department to share services, there should be other regional collaborations such as Tilton/Northfield and Franklin (Crowley/Northfield).

Hebron has collaborated with Bridgewater to work together on highway department matters such as sharing equipment and working together on road projects. How many other communities in the Newfound area could work together to save money? The towns should have a meeting to explore regionalization of highway usage to save money. (Manseau/Hebron)

4. Other Business.

Next month's meeting is May 23, 2016 at Gilford Community Church
Topic will be Wildlife Action Plan with NH Fish and Game and NH Cooperative Extension.

Annual Meeting is June 27, 2016 at the Wolfeboro Inn

Motion to approve minutes from March 28, 2016. M/S/P

5. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:30pm unanimously approved M/S/P *Farley/Snelling*

Respectfully Submitted,

Erica Hebert, LRPC Admin

