

**York River Stewardship Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.**

**York Land Trust**

**Minutes**

1. Welcome

Attendees: Stewardship Committee: Philip Brekke, Allan Cawrse, Beth Cromwell, Sally Harold, Ed Henningsen, Karl Honkonen, Joan LeBlanc, David Marshall, Mary Marshall, Susie Rice, Deane Rykerson, Jim Smith, Judy Spiller. Wells Reserve: Paul Dest. NPS: Jim McCartney, Hannah Volk, Emma Lord. Guest: Suzanne Petersen, Lamprey River Advisory Committee.

2. Approved August 22, 2023 Minutes: Moved K. Honkonen, seconded S. Harold. Unanimous.

3. Coordinator Search and Update (Paul) – Thirty candidates. Interviewed three. Jennifer Hunter unanimous choice: knowledge of Partnership Wild and Scenic Program; watershed communities; steps to implement stewardship plan and ability to manage program logistics. Starts October 16.

4. Lamprey River ([www.lampreyriver.org/aboutus/river-protection-programs-and-lamprey-river/federal-wild-scenic-rivers](http://www.lampreyriver.org/aboutus/river-protection-programs-and-lamprey-river/federal-wild-scenic-rivers)): Suzanne Petersen spoke to programming successes: map of River, inc. access points, kayaking trails most useful outreach tool; program branding has provided an identity; signage along River reflects program goals. Has State reporting responsibilities unlike YRSC. Have a volunteer Stream team which monitors the River. Focus on adjacent land protection; water quality; and management of public access. Do provide grant funding (small grant program) on committee recommendations. Information kiosks are popular put-ins. Part of a pre-existing watershed association. Members appointed by NH DES, based on the recommendations of each of the watershed communities (4 per community).

5. PWSR/US Congress/NPS Updates (Paul, Jim M.) – Budget still awaiting Congressional action. Two PWSR study bills (Deerfield and Nulhegan) passed out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee by voice vote. Two additional studies are currently active in Florida (Kissimmee and Little Manatee).

6. York River Boat Trip – Very successful event.

7. York River 101: Fall Presentations (Judy) – Subsequent presentations will follow Stewardship Management Plan

8. Other Business – Mary and Beth asked that reports from the York Ad Hoc Committee to Improve Access become a standing agenda item.

Next meeting will be in Kittery as Land Trust conference room will not be available.

9. Public Comment - None

10. Next Meeting – October 24, 2023

11. Adjourn at 7 PM. Moved M. Marshall; seconded D. Marshall