

**Mayo Mill Dam Feasibility Study
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023**

Attending (21): Tom Lizotte, Chris Maas, Cindy Freeman Cyr, Norton True, Denise Buzzelli, Jack Clukey, Alsina Brenenstuhl, Maranda Nemeth, Eileen Bader Hall, Mike Burke, Lucy Van Hook, Bill Erspamer, Marguerite L. Weymouth, Emery Cox, Matt Bernier, Dick Swett, Peter Ruksznis, Steve Robinson, Bill Friers, Mark Wamser, Eamonn Hutton

Call to Order: 6:33 pm

Minutes:

- Review assessment of existing dam and powerhouse structural conditions presented by Bill Friers, P.E. (Gomez and Sullivan Engineers). Discussed that the dam needs substantive work to repair and stabilize the structures to meet safety requirements.
- Eamonn Hutton (Viewshed) presented an exploration of potential opportunities and led the steering committee on a guided discussion about those potential opportunities. Discussed was connectivity to the downtown, safe access to the river, mobility, recreation, history and ecology.
- Mike Burke (InterFluve) discussed and reviewed the river water levels and flooding risks for each alternative the committee chose to have more information about in the August meeting.
- Lucy recaps where we are in the process, starting from examples beginning in July and then collectively selecting the leading criteria.
- Howland field trip consensus Friday, Oct. 27th, morning (changed to Oct. 20th after meeting due to conflicting scheduling)
- Next meeting consensus for Nov. 9th with a 4:30pm start

Comments:

Question from audience - Want to know annual expense to taxpayer for O&M for infrastructure built.

Tom: Bringing back a pedestrian bridge across the river, similar to Bridgton, ME, would be nice.

Denise: I would hate to spend millions of dollars and not see much of an impact on reducing flood risk.

Cindy: Enjoy seeing people utilizing the river in Franklin, NH (Slide shown in presentation); I could imagine this happening in our downtown. Can we connect FA so they can have easier access to the river?

Chris: To Gomez & Sullivan: Were you surprised the dam was still there after 1987 flood? Answer: No, not surprised, because the dam is still there.

Norton: We would love to enhance the fish passage and keep the impoundment where we didn't lose the cove completely and, with new landscaping, introduce parks but will this reduce flooding.

Jack: We want a riverfront that works, water access, green space, and connects people to downtown and the water.

Communications and Outreach Action Items:

- Alsina – Organize field trip logistics from the D-F side for Howland
- Maranda – Post tonight's presentation slides to the website
- Steering Committee – Have fun on the field trip!

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Thursday, November 9th, 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Adjournment: 8:10 pm

Submitted by: Alsina Brenenstuhl

Date: 10/10/2023