

Souhegan River Local Advisory Committee (SoRLAC)

March 19, 2026

Meeting Minutes: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Milford Police Station, 19 Garden St.

Attendees: Cory Ritz, Celeste Barr, Robert Clemens, Alan Preston, Marshall Buttrick, Marcy Stanton, Marion Kastner, Eric Doberstein, Rich Hart, George May, Jaclyn Hodgkins.

Absent: Andrew Duane

Note: No meeting was held in February 2026.

Agenda

- 1. Review and approve minutes:** January minutes – Marshall made a motion to approve the January minutes, Rob 2nd, all approved. Marion to send December and January minutes to Emma.
- 2. Old Business:**
 - a. 604b Water Quality Grant not awarded see [DES Response Letter](#). The group reviewed this and discussed the feedback received through the response letter.
- 3. New Business:**
 - a. Eversource standard dredge and fill permit 2026-00380 was reviewed, no further comment will be provided by SoRLAC.
- 4. Corridor Management Plan**
 - i. [Town audit review](#) – continue. Discussion was had; team want to try using AI to help sort through the data. Cory will work on this and bring results to the April meeting.
- 5. Outreach:**
 - i. Upcoming events:
 1. Winter Festival 21 Feb. SoRLAC attended this, it was cold and snowy with a slow flow of people. Because this was delayed, the date it was held was in competition with a anti ICE rally.
 2. Sustainability Fair, Saturday March 28, 2026 (Boys and Girls Club Amherst)
 - a. 9am - 1pm, set up at 8am
 - i. Marion, Rob, Cory, Jackie, Celeste, Marcy, Marshall will attend.
 - ii. Jaclyn to create QR code flyers for the native plants' handout.
 - iii. Cory to create a recruiting sign to have at the fair.
 3. July 4th – Marion will reach out to confirm booth.
- 6. Recruiting**
 - a. No updates, SWA needs about 7 new volunteers for water testing.

7. Local updates:

- i. Souhegan Watershed Association – no other updates aside of volunteers needed.
- ii. New Ipswich – Waterloom pond dam gate has issues. The cast iron bracing from the 1700's is breaking. The dam is scheduled to be repaired this spring.
- iii. Greenville – Pilgrim Foods case was continued again. It has now been over 2 years since the initial search warrant was issued and the case has been continued 7 times. Marshall requested a letter to be written for victim impact. Celeste made a motion to have a letter written and sent to the Victim Witness Assistance Coordinator about Pilgrim Foods and the impact it has had on the river. Rob 2nd the motion, all in favor. Cory and Celeste will work on this.
- iv. Temple – Could be a future impact at the head waters due to development.
- v. Wilton – Recently passed funding to have 2 bridges repaired.
- vi. Milford – Warrant article for new dog park was not approved. This has now moved away from the original riverside location.
- vii. Amherst – Open space warrant article failed. \$100K Baboosic Lake Alum treatment for cyanobacteria was approved. This summer Amherst will be replacing 3 culverts on Thornton Ferry II road.
- viii. Lyndeborough – Working with NRPC on natural resources inventory program.
- ix. Merrimack – Celeste walked the trails at Merrimack's Fields Farm Conservation Area and was very impressed with the trails along a long stretch of the Souhegan River. Wants to plan a future SoRLAC meeting there.
- x. RMAC & NH DES – reviewed links in Agenda

8. Team SoRLAC: [SoRLAC Members](#) ([nomination form](#))

9. Next Meetings: April 16, 2026 – Milford Police Station

- a. May 14 – (TBC) Hike on the Fields Farm property – 6:00 pm, Park at Horse Hill Nature Preserve or on the shoulder at 207 Amherst Road (trailhead). Meeting to follow hike at Souhegan Woods Golf Club nearby.
- b. June 18, July 16, August 20

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. Minutes taken by Marion Kastner