

**Mayo Mill Dam Feasibility Study Steering Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 25, 2023**

**Attending (12):** Tom Lizotte, Chris Maas, Cindy Freeman-Cyr, Norton True, Mike Sutton, Jack Clukey, Alsina Brenenstuhl, Maranda Nemeth, Eileen Bader-Hall, Mike Burke, Lucy Van Hook, Dick Swett, Matt Bernier

**Zoom attendees:** Sarah Whiting, Carole Boothroyd, Casey Clark

**Call to Order:** 5:33 pm

**Minutes:**

- Maranda provided an overview of the format and reasoning for the public meeting. Suggestions were made for the time to be pushed back to 6 pm for people getting out of work to attend. Consensus for the public meeting format and date, June 27 from 6-8pm.
- Location for the meeting was discussed between Central Hall and Centre Theater, with the consensus for Central Hall because the panel and audience would be at the same level for discussion. The consensus was reached for the location being Central Hall and leaving the title for the event “What’s going on with the Mayo Mill Dam?”.
- Mike Burke, presented [Piscataquis River Flow PowerPoint](#)
  - The Mayo Mill Dam increases the water level, or height of water, during a flood event (see slides 23-28).
  - The water levels during flood events affect the downtown areas including roads and buildings. The size of the area impacted increases with the magnitude of flood (see slides 51-55) and this has been visible in the history of events.
  - The 1-to-10-year flood events are trending to increase in size and frequency over time (see slide 22).
  - Any decision to change or not change the infrastructure (Mayo Mill Dam and fishway) will impact the river water level, extent of flooding, and thus the downtown for decades to come.
- After reviewing the draft report of the study in October, the committee will make a recommendation to Selectboard. That decision will then be incorporated into the final report.

**Comments:**

Chris Maas: Is the Piscataquis River depths enough for the salmon? Response: With the impoundment behind the dam, it’s a migratory corridor to move upstream to better spawning areas. Dam removal would likely create habitat for spawning.

Dick Swett: Ice can have significant effects on flooding.

Mike Burke: According to the data, nuisance-type events are becoming more frequent.

**Communications and Outreach Action Items:**

- Chris and Tom – Volunteered to help with designing the meeting and work on drafting the press release for the public meeting
- Jack & Alsina - Kiwanis meeting announcement at the June 13th meeting
- Alsina – Shore up the list of invitees with Jack and send out invitations
- Maranda – Continue preparation for TFL Salmon talk in June

**Next Meeting:** Scheduled for Thursday, May 25th, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**Adjournment:** 7:12 pm

**Submitted by:** Alsina Brenenstuhl

**Date:** 5/18/2023