



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squires Tavern
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Minutes of Regular FRCC Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2009
Squires Tavern – 100 East River Road

Present: Edna Travis (Colebrook alt/Secretary), Tom Stanton (Colebrook Rep/Chair), Fred Jones (Hartland Rep/Vice-chair), Tom Karpeichik (FRAA alt), Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted alt), Eileen Fielding (FRWA alt/Treasurer), Jean Miller (Barkhamsted Rep), Tim Anthony (MDC Rep), Bill Roberts (Canton Rep), Alison Murdock (New Hartford Rep), Liz Lacy (FRCC Director/NPS alt)

1. Call to Order. Chair Stanton called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM, following an excellent 6:00 PM hike and tour of the Lighthouse site in Barkhamsted, led by archeologist Ken Feder.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2009. Minutes approved.

3. Treasurer's Report: Fielding presented the Treasurer's report.

4. Old Business:

Subcommittee Updates:

Resource Stewardship

Project Updates

- **Invasive Plant Management Project Update.** Anthony reported that the project continues to progress well. Lacy stated that she had received a letter and additional data and field notes from Bill Moorhead. Stanton informed everyone that there may be opportunities to put together groups to pull invasive species over the next several months, as there is federal stimulus funding for youths from 14-21.
- **Greenwoods Anglers Trail Update.** Anthony reported that John Monroe of the Park Service had visited the site earlier in the month to discuss the lay out of the trail. It is anticipated that it will be mowed trail with a definite path and spurs to the river at specific locations, to avoid wear and tear on the banks. It is also anticipated that certain areas will be cordoned off, and that Anglers' Guides will use this as an education opportunity. Lacy reported that Tiffany Caisse, our intern will be using a GPS to identify existing trails for a base working map which will assist in the design of the new trail. The Anglers were urged to participate in this process and to provide follow up education efforts and maintenance once the project is complete.
- **East River Road.** Lacy reported that she had received a note from Don Stein to the effect that the DOT does not plan any work on this at present. Lacy said she nevertheless would continue to press for a meeting.
- **Bridges.** Lacy reported that she had talked to Don Stein and that there had been no significant developments since last month. It has not yet been determined what approach would be taken for the New Hartford (219) bridge.
- **Mountain Road Stream Erosion Project.** Other than the fact that it appears that the Fish America grant is not available, there has been no change since last month. Don Stein continues to look for funding opportunities and we will help when we are asked – both in possible grant opportunities and in design of the project.

- **Recreational Carrying Capacity Research.** Lacy reported that due to the special nature of the wild and scenic river, and the fact that NPS owns no land along the river, FRCC's role in understanding and assisting with carrying capacity will be limited to helping identify people who could conduct a study for user capacity on the Farmington. The implementation of recommendations from such a study would be up to the towns and the state.

Education and Outreach

Project Updates

- **Scholarships.** Roberts said that the applications had been reviewed by the Subcommittee and the scholarships had been awarded to two people (Sophie Case and Woodrow Hoffman). They have been invited to attend our July 20th meeting.
- **Kiosks.** Work on the kiosks is progressing. There was discussion about the durability of the material that has been used. Lacy will inquire of the manufacturer. Stanton agreed to research possible new materials that might be more durable. There was discussion about the wording of some of the language on the kiosks on the dam and the desirability of including some language about the history of the dam. Also discussion about the access to the back of the Greenwoods kiosk. The Subcommittee will continue to work on these matters.
- **Outings.** The July meeting will be preceded by a trip down the River accompanied by Mike Beauchene who will talk about macro-invertebrates. We will meet at 4:30 and will need to discuss the logistics before then. On August 17, Jones will host a hike in Hartland which will be followed by a pot luck dinner meeting. We will meet at his house at 5:30.
- **Outreach.** Jones reported that the Subcommittee was leaning toward something simple and easy to absorb for presenting etiquette material. There was a lively discussion of various ideas. Subcommittee will continue to discuss.
- **Open House.** Lacy requested assistance with the open house. Miller and Murdock agreed to help with the food and beverage end of things. Jones agreed to help set up. Others have volunteered to help clean up. Lacy will contact

Executive:

Grants: Extensive Discussion on the Winchester Land Trust's request \$20,700 to assist in costs for acquisition of an easement in property on the Mad River. The policy document entitled "FRCC Land Protection Policies and Criteria" was considered and discussed, as were past FRCC land protection grants. Members who had been involved in the drafting of the policy and the reasons for it spoke of the history and reasoning behind it. FRCC unanimously decided to turn down the application as the project does not fall within the priority areas as outlined in the current policy. The Resource Stewardship Subcommittee will consider possible clarifications to the policy and will also discuss the role which FRWA will play in working to ensure that the 5 land trusts in the focal area are aware of the FRCC's interest and ability to provide funding for land protection projects.

Management Plan Update. This item was tabled until the July meeting.

Work Plan Modification. Lacy will send a revised Work Plan by email.

5. New Business/Other –

- Lacy read a letter from Governor Rell to the US Mint supporting the suggestion to recognize the Upper Farmington River in the "national park's quarter dollar coin program."

6. Next Meeting dates: July 20, August 17, September 17 FRCC Open House/Art Exhibit. Subcommittee dates to be determined.

Adjourned: 9:28 PM