



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern
P.O. Box 395
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063
860-379-0282 www.farmingtonriver.org

Minutes Regular FRCC Meeting
July 23, 2018 meeting
100 East River Rd, Squire’s Tavern
Barkhamsted, CT

Attendance: New Hartford (Alison Murdock, Committee Chair), Colebrook (Tom Stanton, Treasurer), Barkhamsted (Roger Behrens), MDC (Jim Randazzo by phone) Canton (Lans Perry), FRWA (David Sinish, Secretary, and E&O sub comm. Chair), CT DEEP (Susan Peterson), NPS (Liz Lacy, FRCC Director), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Steward)

Absent: FRAA, Hartland

1. Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm by Chair Murdock.

2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of May 21, 2018, with the following correction were consensually approved.

‘5. Local Updates - DEEP: Gov. Malloy signed an order implementing the State Water Plan and requiring the Water Planning Council to resubmit the Plan to CGA by December 2018 for its review and approval. The Governor also reaffirmed its commitment to water as a Public Trust.’

3. Treasurer’s Report: Tom Stanton presented the report:

The beginning balance was \$30,289.78, plus \$2,502.44 in FRWA Temp Restricted Account, totaling \$32,792.22. There was no income. Expenses for scholarships, payment to River Stewards, invasive plant removal and Stream Crossing Surveys totaled \$13,603.24. Expenses for the WSR 50 events were \$745.52. The ending total balance in both accounts is \$18,443.46

4. Subcommittee Reports:

Executive: The draft 2019 budget and work plan discussion was tabled to next meeting as sub-committees did not meet in July.

Education and Outreach: There was no meeting during July.

- **River Stewards** are active; including the 4th of July parade in Barkhamsted, Barkhamsted Summer Camp, Birding presentation and a video contest.

Resource/Stewardship: There was no meeting during July.

- **Gravel operation along Sandy Brook in Colebrook:** No further public updates are available.

- **Invasive Plant Management:** Betsy Corrigan submitted report of activity as well as a bill for her services. Committee determined that her work is going well and her invoice should be paid.

- **Water Quality Monitoring:** Monthly sampling is continuing through November.

- **170 Main St. “Main Stream” buildings in New Hartford:** Continued discussion of the already constructed three buildings within the River Protection Zone. This matter is being reviewed by New Hartford Planning and Zoning, as well as IWWA. FRCC submitted a letter to New Hartford officials reminding them of their partnership responsibilities for river protection. Response was inconclusive, Lacy to call New Hartford land use personnel to discuss. Public hearing to be held on Weds., 9/12.

- **Satan’s Kingdom Mile Markers:** Reference markers have been installed in Canton and New Hartford along the most popular tubing area. FRCC had hoped to provide input to the project sponsored by the town of Canton.

Committee was wondering about who did the installation and how some of the markers were installed on private property. It was the Canton Fire Department.

- **Increased River Use by Tubers:** A lengthy discussion re increased use raised several questions and observations including:

Parking, walking and changing clothes along RT 44 in Canton. Parking on private property
Alcohol is limited when ENCON police are present. Uncontrolled use when no police present.

Tubers are now launching above Satan's Kingdom

Tubers are now launching in Riverton

What is capacity of river?

How is increased use affecting the quality of the recreational experience?

This issue is national in scope

Data needs to be collected. Both pictures and numbers of users

How is increased usage affecting the riverine environment?

Tubing is an attraction that attracts business to area

There are special restrictions made for water contact sports

No easy or fast answers

Need to reinvolve the initial group of town/state folks

Number of emergency calls involving the river

We will love the river to death

----this issue will be discussed in the E and O subcommittee

5. Local Updates in addition to those noted above:

Barkhamsted - The boardwalk to Beaver Meadow is now open.

FRWA -Executive Director search still underway. Job posting up on many local and national jobsites.

MDC - Request to place memorial bench at Church Pool. Lacy to attend site visit with MDC reps to find appropriate location.

6. Next Meeting Dates:

Sub-committees: Education and Outreach Mon, August 6 - 6:30 by telephone

Resource and Stewardship Tues., August 7 - 6:00 by phone.

Full Committee: August 20, September 17, Open House October 18

7. Adjourn: 9:00 PM

ROLE OF TOWN REPS Reminder

May meeting's discussion led to the need to report issues to town land use officer. Further, FRCC town reps need to meet with town land use boards to remind them of purpose, accomplishments and resource of FRCC. Reps should also follow their town's minutes of IWWA and Planning and Zoning and report at each meeting.