



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

Regular FRCC Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 25, 2019 7:00 pm
100 East River Road, Barkhamsted, Squire’s Tavern

Attendance: New Hartford (Alison Murdock, RS Subcomm. Chair), Barkhamsted (Mario Santoro and Roger Behrens, Alternate), Colebrook (Tom Stanton, Committee Vice Chair), Hartland (Dan Bowler, Committee Chair), Canton (Lans Perry, Secretary), FRWA (David Sinish, Committee Treasurer, E&O Subcomm. Chair), Metropolitan District Commission (Jim Randazzo, by telephone), National Park Service (Liz Lacy, FRCC Director, by telephone and Megan White, Intern by telephone), Laura Hart (FRWA staff), Farmington Rivers Angler Association (Nick Masi, Outgoing Representative and Mark Swenson, New Representative)

Absent: CT DEEP (Susan Peterson), River Steward (Stephan Bastrzycki)

1. Meeting called to order at 7:03PM by Chair Bowler.

2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of January 28, 2019 meeting were consensually approved with clarifications to be recorded by Lacy.

3. Treasurer’s Report: Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the treasurer’s report dated 2/20/2019, which was presented by Hart. The beginning balance was \$17,059.14 and the ending account balance was \$34,683.48. This balance represents transfers into the account from NPS (federal funds) of \$25,000.00 and expenses of \$7,375.66 related to operations, project work and phone bill. The FY19 NPS budgeted account balance after the \$25,000.00 transfer was \$80,000.00.

4. Subcommittee reports:

-Executive:

- **Limited Access Website Content** – Ask Lacy for credentials to access this area.

-Resource/Stewardship:

- **FALPS request for funding for seeding project** was discussed. Stanton moved to approve up to \$1,300.00 toward this project. Seconded by Masi and adopted unanimously.

- **Hartland Land Trust’s 112-acre project** - Stanton moved to approve expending \$8,500.00 toward closing costs for Hartland Land Trust’s 112-acre project. The motion was seconded by Perry and unanimously approved.

- **East River Road** – Hold Off per Peterson to avoid duplicative actions.

- **West River Road** – Still no news

- **New Hartford Rail Trail** – Pine Meadow and Puddletown Section received grant.

-Education and Outreach:

- **Assistant Stewards Hiring Process** – underway with interviews on Sat. March 30.

- **Hart's Contract Extended** – for work on activities related to the 25th anniversary of designation and outreach.

- **Wild and Scenic West Branch 25th** celebration. E&O has considered a series of events that may be FRCC events, sponsored by partners, or venues for display. Objective is to better inform public of the value of the Wild and Scenic designation. **"Concert by the River Series"** set for area behind New Hartford Town Hall on 5/26/19, 6/30/19, 7/28/19, and 8/25/19.

- **Intern Report** – White said she had been updating GIS layers, and collecting other information for maps in process for the Recreational User Plan.

- **Community TV** ideas were discussed and Lacy and Hart might organize.

- **Scholarship deadline** for this year is Friday May 10. Behrens requested that Lacy update the info on the website.

- **FRWA request for funding for River Rally** was discussed. Murdock moved to approve up to \$3,500.00 toward this request provided 3 people attend, up to \$2,600 if two people attend, or up to \$1,200.00 if only one person attends. Seconded by Masi and adopted unanimously.

7. Other Business and Local Updates:

- **New FRWA Executive Director** - Bill Dornbos to start on March 11.

- **Lacy and Bowler reported on conversation with DEEP staff** regarding its participation on FRCC and will follow up. Lower funding, less staff, and more mandated work make prioritization critical.

- **Lacy and Bowler reported on conversation with DEEP** regarding Satan's Kingdom Recreational Area riverbank tree removals. Better communication promised in the future.

- **Randazzo of MDC noted that Colebrook Dam** cost increases and other changes have led MDC to question the sustainability of its involvement and whether it should release its interest in the Colebrook Dam. Currently in preliminary discussions with the Army Corps of Engineers. There is also potential for decommissioning of Hydro at Colebrook Dam.

- **FRAA** - discussed website update, banquet plans, and need for big donations. Nick Masi reported he is stepping down as rep and introduced Mark Swenson who will take over as rep for FRAA. Working on finding an alternate.

8. Next Meeting Dates: Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Mon 4/1 - 6:30 by telephone
Resource and Stewardship - Tues. 4/2 - 6:30 by telephone.
Full Committee: 3/25/19, 4/15/19

9. Adjourn : Moved Tom Stanton, Second Roger Behrens, Approved Unanimously. 8:41PM adjournment.