



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, April 20, 2020 7:00 pm
(Held Via Conference Call)

Attendance: Barkhamsted (Mario Santoro, Representative, Roger Behrens, Alternate), Hartland (Dan Bowler, Committee Chair), Canton (Lans Perry, Secretary), CT DEEP (Pete Aarrestad, Representative), FRWA (David Sinish, Committee Treasurer, E&O Subcomm. Chairman, and Bill Dornbos, FRWA Executive Director, Alternate, and Laura Hart, FRWA staff), Metropolitan District Commission (Jim Randazzo), New Hartford (Alison Murdock, RS Subcomm. Chair), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Steward), National Park Service (Liz Lacy, FRCC Director)

Absent: Colebrook (Tom Stanton, Committee Vice Chair), CT DEEP (Matt Goclowski, Alternate), Hartland (Bob Beeman, Alternate), Farmington River Anglers Association (Mark Swensen, Representative), New Hartford (Tony Mitchell, Alternate),

1. Regular Meeting called to order at 7:07PM by Chairman Bowler

2. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of March 16, 2019 meeting were consensually approved with correction of the errant date at the top.

3. Treasurer’s Report: Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the Treasurer’s report dated 4/13/2020, which was presented by Sinish. The beginning total balance was \$37,741.91. The Pat Keener Fund balance comprised \$1,194.64 of the total and was unchanged during the month. \$8,834.09 from FRCC checking paid for printing a new batch of checks, FRWA admin fees, River Steward costs, and a phone bill. The checking account ending book balance was \$27,713.18 and when added to the Pat Keener Fund the ending total balance was \$28,907.82. The FY2020 NPS budgeted account balance is now 75,000.00. After discussion, the report was consensually approved.

4. Subcommittee reports:

-Executive:

-Motion unanimously passed Made by Sinish Seconded by Murdock to appropriate \$275.00 to FRWA for Alisa Phillips-Griggs attendance at NE Aquatic Conference.

-Land Trust Virtual Mtg with DEEP’s Commissioner Katie Dykes and Mike Lambert lauded by Chair Bowler. Outdoor recreation continues to be made available with proper social distancing.

-Satan’s Kingdom Trail- Bowler had a conversation with NH First Selectman Jerram regarding possible alternate routes and was heartened to hear process will allow for that. Bowler to suggest dates for field walk.

-Resource Stewardship:

-**West River Road**- Murdock noted that engineering design is complete but local funding is needed for construction.

-**Invasives**- Betsy Corrigan is underway with initial work on some Knapweed infestations.

-Education and Outreach:

- **Quilt** - at FRWA for repairs to hanging attachments and labels until Libraries reopen.
- **4-13-2020 Mtg with DEEP's Lambert and Lewis went well.** Bowler continues to follow up.
- **Town of Barkhamsted Facebook Page** Honor the Resource. Suggest No Glass/No Trash Signs
- **FRCC annual report** finished by Hart is at Lacy and Sinish for review.
- **Mailing List additions continue.**
- **Discussion of River Stewards for season starting first week of June.** 1 definite. More possible. Discussed same cost with fewer people working longer resulting in same total hours.
- **Junior River Ranger Book** discussed. May need to print locally to meet need on time.
- **New River Trail Brochure** discussed. Possible disclaimer to be added to map under consideration.
- **Facebook Page conversion** discussed.
- **Summer Music Events** out because of virus protocols.
- **Scholarships Fund** – Balance low but may be replenished by donors c/o FRWA. Behrens to proceed.

5. New Business/Other:

- **Videoconferencing** briefly discussed as possibility for future meetings.

6. Local Updates and Organizational Reports:

- **Colebrook - Absent** no further comment
- **Hartland:** Hartland Land Trust publication expressed gratitude for FRCC grants.
- **Barkhamsted:** Earth Day Activities postponed, Possible sewer connection for Mallory Brook Plaza.
- **New Hartford:** Trail project covered already
- **Canton:** Collinsville Hydro Project continuing and loud. Much Concrete to be poured.
- **DEEP:** Fish stocking ongoing. Covid-19 mandates telecommuting and Zoom mtgs for DEEP staff. All tournaments and derbies being postponed. Field work curtailed. Seasonal help delayed. Colebrook Pool height reached 714.5' so DEEP has access to (2) 5000 Acre-feet pools of water to maintain flow as required.
- **FRWA:** Bowler cited Lawn Care News as great addition. All preoccupied with Covid-19.
- **MDC** - Colebrook Lake dam repair project complete. West Branch Reservoir at 639' (2' below spillway) per Randazzo. West Branch Reservoir output raised per Tim Anthony to 400 cfs to allow Colebrook to reach its designed flood prevention level on time. Visitor numbers overwhelming Saville Dam area and parking is closed.
- **NPS** – Paperwork in for Upper and Lower W+S cooperative agreement funds.
- **FRAA- Absent** no further comment

**7. Next Meeting Dates: Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Mon. May 4 at 6:30 PM by phone
Resource and Stewardship – Tuesday May 5 at 6:30 PM (866-423-6894 code 9815966)**

Full Committee: May 18, June 15, July 20

8. Adjourn: 8:24PM adjournment.