



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, May 18, 2020 7:00 pm
(Held Via Conference Call)

Attendance: Barkhamsted (Mario Santoro, Representative, Roger Behrens, Alternate), Colebrook (Tom Stanton, Committee Vice Chair), 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: Farmington Rivers Angler Association

1. Regular Meeting called to order at 7:08PM by Chairman Bowler

2. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of April 20, 2019 meeting were consensually approved.

3. Treasurer’s Report: Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the Treasurer’s report dated 5/11/2020, which was presented by Sinish. The beginning total balance was \$28,907.82. The Pat Keener Fund balance comprised \$1,194.64 of the total and was unchanged during the month. \$7,681.48 from FRCC checking paid for Grant to Town of Barkhamsted, Invasive Plant Removal costs, Education and Outreach cost, and a bank fee. The checking account ending book balance was \$20,031.70 and when added to the Pat Keener Fund the ending total balance was \$21,226.34. The FY2020 NPS budgeted account balance is now 75,000.00. After discussion, the report was consensually approved.

4. Subcommittee reports:

-Executive:

- Discussion of need to reallocating some funding to pay for necessary Printing. Motion at next meeting.
- Appreciation of Laura Hart’s Ongoing Efforts in support of FRCC and possible appropriate title at FRCC

-Resource/Stewardship:

-Motion to support Invasives Control unanimously passed Made by Murdock Seconded by Sinish to appropriate an additional \$500.00 for Invasive Plants Control Work tentatively from Office Expenses Budget line.

-Still River- FRWA is working upstream of W+S to prevent pollution by education and demonstration projects in Winsted funded by National Park Foundation. General agreement that FRWA should make grant request to FRCC if needed to further their ongoing work to prevent pollution of W+S reaches of river.

- Discussion of Tubing in Covid – 19 era.

-Education and Outreach:

- **Quilt is at FRWA until Libraries reopen.**
- **FRCC annual report** at final edit by Hart and Lacy then to ExComm for review.
- **No Glass/No Trash** – Printing underway at Goulet.
- **Junior River Ranger materials** – Printing underway at Goulet.
- **Discussion of River Stewards.** 3 Hired. Covid 19 plans made. Training 30May 10AM outside at Squires.
- **New River Trail Brochure** – Disclaimer discussed and recommended.
- **Scholarship Decision Planned** – 3 applied. Conference Call discussion scheduled for 27MAY2020 7PM at usual phone call-in **(866-423-6894 code 9815966)**

5. New Business/Other:

- **Satan's Kingdom Trail-** Bowler led a discussion with input from all who attended field session at Gorge on 29April2020. Concerns included: where to put trail user parking, aggravation of current traffic impacts that multiple safe crossings would require, congestion at Satan's Kingdom Recreation Area already, safety and feasibility of multiple driveway and street crossings that a US44 road-edge trail would require, costs to build project if an overland route behind businesses was to be used, neighborhood impact and large detour on state roads if alternate Farmington River Turnpike route was to be considered.

- **General agreement that Gorge route should not be used for Satan's Kingdom section of trail.** Agreed to send letter to NH First Selectman Jerram regarding general support for trails but need to find alternate route outside of the gorge. Lacy to draft letter and circulate to FRCC for comments.

6. Local Updates and Organizational Reports:

- **Colebrook** – Town Hall Flooded. No specific further comments.
- **Hartland:** Bowler will present Green Snow-Pro (Road Salt Abuse) to Hartland BOS and email link to FRCC
- **Barkhamsted:** no further comment
- **New Hartford:** Covered already
- **Canton:** Local ZEO investigating multiple River Overlay and Wetlands violations on riverfront.
- **DEEP:** Floodplain Violation at 1179 Farmington Ave, Farmington, CT 06032 being investigated.
- **FRWA:** Sinish very pleased with River Rally Online. Will try to share content as appropriate.
- **MDC** - Colebrook Project Complete. West Branch Reservoir at 639.5' (1-1/2' below spillway) per Randazzo. Colebrook Pool is higher than ideal at 714' with 170 cfs coming in and 250 cfs going out. Still River flow is 130 cfs and Unionville flow is 600 cfs.
- **NPS** – Budget OK. Lower W+S issues: PFAS, Farmington Floodplain Problem, Avon Boating Hazard.
- **FRAA- Absent** no further comment

**7. Next Meeting Dates: Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Mon. June 1 at 6:30 PM by phone
Resource and Stewardship – Tuesday June 2 at 6:30 PM (866-423-6894 code 9815966)**

Full Committee: June 15, July 20

8. Adjourn : 8:39PM adjournment.