



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern  
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**Regular FRCC Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, August 16, 2021 7:00 pm**  
**(Hybrid Meeting Held Via Zoom and at Squires)**

**Attendance:** Barkhamsted (Mario Santoro, Representative, Committee Vice Chair and Roger Behrens, Alternate), Hartland (Dan Bowler, Representative, Committee Chair), Colebrook (Alison Jassen, Representative), Canton (Lans Perry, Representative, Committee Secretary, RS Subcomm. Chairman), FRWA (David Sinish, Representative, Committee Treasurer, E&O Subcomm. Chairman and Heather Geist, FRWA Summer Staff), Metropolitan District Commission (Jim Randazzo, Representative), National Park Service (Andrew Petitdemange, Representative, NPS staff), CT DEEP (Pete Aarrestad, Representative), Farmington River Anglers Association (Mark Swenson, Representative), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Steward),

**Absent:** Hartland (Bob Beeman, Alternate), New Hartford (Alison Murdock, Representative and Tony Mitchell, Alternate), Canton (Matt Vinick, Alternate), FRWA (Laura Hart, Alternate), National Park Service (Liz Lacy, Alternate, NPS staff), CT DEEP (Matt Goclowski, Alternate),

**1. Regular Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM** by Vice Chairman Santoro

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Draft minutes of July 19, 2021 meeting were approved.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the Treasurer’s Report dated 8/13/2021, which was presented by Treasurer Sinish. The beginning total balance was \$36,023.44 on 7/15/2021. The Pat Keener Scholarship Fund balance comprised \$194.64 of that total and was unchanged. \$11,314.22 was spent during the period. \$4,680.00 went to support our river stewards program. Two checks totaling \$2,100.00 were made to LUMI to pay online ad costs incurred pursuing FRCC’s River Messaging campaign. \$3,900.00 was paid BHS for Squire’s Tavern rent. A transfer was made to FRWA totaling \$456.77 as reimbursement for Cherry Brook culverts assessment. \$53.91 went to reimburse purchases of Velcro for the Quilt. \$123.54 was transferred to FRWA to reimburse website costs paid to Arvix. The checking account ending book balance was \$24,514.58 and when added to the \$194.64 Pat Keener Fund yielded an ending total balance of \$24,709.22. The remaining FY2021 NPS CA budgeted account balance per report was \$75,000.00 on 8/15/2021. Consensually approved.

Treasurer Sinish led a discussion of FRCC’s financial management. It was agreed that the detailed spreadsheet titled *FRCC budget details\_7.20.21.pdf* that Hart attached to her 7-23-21 email was a suitable answer to members need for detailed financial information. A discussion of how best to provide that information to members followed. Discussions considered having either the actual document available securely with read-only permission or a regularly updated pdf print of the latest version sent by email. Sinish will study and report back.

**4. Subcommittee reports:**

- Executive:** Best Wishes to Laura Hart on new baby Nova! Open House planned for October 14 was discussed.
- Resource Stewardship:** Work continues on current RS projects. Geist reported Cherry Brook Culvert assessment work was finished. Sinish noted that Canton’s proposed new West Road culvert was properly designed. Perry will contact Don Stein and offer to serve as FRCC rep for West River Road as required pursuant to STEAP Grant.

## **-Education and Outreach:**

- Sinish discussed how pleased E+O was with the FarmingtonRiverSteward.org website and expressed thanks to all involved. Lumi documented large increases in traffic on our websites and on social media as well. Quilt installed at Avon on August 2, 2021 and will be displayed through the end of September. Canton River Access Committee work suspended for August. Six monofilament collection boxes installed by Bastrzycki and Swenson and by Groundwork Bridgeport crew. Kiosk work is underway by Bill Winchester. GIS mapping work looks quite favorable though concerns remain on how to present the various possible launching and landing sites and expected travel times because so much depends upon the type of watercraft and the skill and energy of the participants.

- Bastrzycki noted that the River stewards have noted less river visitors than expected but have been active in invasive plant removal work and have many new videos in production with special mention of steward Finn Begley's fine video work. The stewards had great results working on projects on four work days with help from Groundwork Bridgeport partially funded by an NPS matching fund grant secured by Petitdemange.

Sinish, Bastrzycki, and Petitdemange led a discussion on the ongoing NPS study by consultants, Doug and Bo, documenting the Partnership Wild and Scenic River stewardship work done on the Housatonic and by FRCC. Sinish noted that our local work has been deemed worthy of national attention. The hope is that the consultants' work product will help improve management of other similar rivers. Petitdemange and others at NPS hope to get more funding for further follow-on work to provide guidance and document best practices for suburban Partnership Wild and Scenic streams.

**5. New Business/Other:** Items previously discussed.

## **6. Local Updates and Organizational Reports:**

- **Barkhamsted:** FALPS Benefit at Little Red Barn Brewery, 32 Lake Street, Winsted 4-8PM on 9-29-21.
- **Hartland:** Letter of support for HLT 'Bosco B Parcel' was sent.
- **Colebrook, New Hartford, River Steward:** Nothing Additional
- **MDC:** River Flow more normal. 30CFS into Colebrook at New Boston and 400CFS out. 300CFS was requested pursuant to 1911 agreement with operator of Rainbow Dam. There was a lengthy discussion of elevated river temperature and impact on recreational use. Concerns about stinky discolored water at East Branch discussed.
- **Canton:** Collins Company redevelopment discussions continue.
- **FRWA:** Nova has arrived. WQM and Rainbow Dam cyanobacteria work continues. New Hartford fire impact on water quality will be studied.
- **NPS:** NPS considering trying to document local volunteer work for awards and as "donations in kind" for funding match purposes. Petitdemange will email more detail. .
- **DEEP:** Aarrestad will follow up on water temperature issue. Offered to help FRWA find labs for water analysis.
- **FRAA:** Swenson expressed FRCC's gratitude for Stephan's exemplary competence, enthusiasm, and work ethic. The monofilament collection boxes need ongoing maintenance. Very impressed with Matt Vinick's video work. Concerns about erosion and sedimentation at various river entry points will be discussed at future RS subcommittee meetings.

## **7. Next Meeting Dates:**

**Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Monday September 13, 2021 at 6:30 PM Zoom**

**Sub-Committee Resource Stewardship – Tuesday September 7, 2021 at 6:30 PM Zoom**

**Full Committee: September 20, October 14 (Open House at Squires), November 15.**

**8. Adjourn :** 8:51 PM adjournment.