



## FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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### Regular FRCC Meeting Minutes Monday, January 24, 2022 7:00 pm (Held Via Zoom)

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

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

**1. Regular Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM** by Chairman Behrens

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Draft minutes of December 20, 2021 meeting were approved.

**3. Treasurer’s Report:** Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the Treasurer’s Report dated 1/19/2022, which was presented by Hart. The beginning total balance was \$58,977.54 on 12/14/2021. The Pat Keener Scholarship Fund balance comprised \$194.64 of that total and was unchanged. \$26,241.30 was spent during the period. \$2,668.80 went to the Hartland Land Trust as final payment for the Stoeke Bosco Project Grant. Four transfers were made to FRWA including \$3,750.00 as quarterly Fiscal Agent fee, \$4,050.00 for quarterly Project Assistance, \$5,397.50 for quarterly Water Quality Monitoring, and \$5,000.00 as reimbursement for a payment to Tree Savers as part of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Grant. A check for \$5,375.00 went to support the River Stewards program. The checking account ending book balance was \$32,541.60 and when added to the \$194.64 Pat Keener Fund yielded an ending total balance of \$32,736.24 on 1/19/22. The remaining FY2022 NPS CA budgeted account balance per report was \$165,000.00 on 1/19/2022. Consensually approved.

#### **4. Subcommittee reports:**

**-Executive:** Petidmange briefly discussed current budget and the expiration of FY22 funding on September 30, 2022 with no carryover. He urged that subcommittees should finalize prospective budgets for new Cooperative Agreement by our next meeting.

Behrens led continued discussion of possible BHS Squire’s Roofing grant. After lengthy debate, including an opinion from NPS that preservation of ORVs included preservation of notable historic structures along the river, a Motion by Perry and seconded by Jassen to grant \$10,000.00 to BHS for the Squires roofing project was unanimously approved.

**-Resource Stewardship:** Perry, Hart, and Petidmange summarized last RSS meeting. Refer to January RSSC meeting notes for more detail.

Motion by Perry, Petidmange seconded and \$8,484.64 was unanimously voted as a grant to FRWA for their "Grant Proposal: Quantifying bacteria and nutrient sources to Cherry Brook to develop River Smart solutions for sustainable clean water".

**-Education and Outreach:** Sinish led discussion of issues from Notes of January E+O Subcommittee meeting.

Motion by Sinish, Perry seconded and it was unanimously voted to approve the tagline "Protecting the Wild and Scenic Farmington River" as endorsed by E+O.

**5. New Business/Other:** Discussion of DEEP's planned Satan's Kingdom RFP for tubing concession and the FRCC's plan to request that the RFP include provisions suggested by FRCC including directing the concessionaire to properly train their personnel in river etiquette and offering some FRCC assistance. Swenson and Perry suggested possibly requiring concessionaire or DEEP to provide streamside sanitary facilities downstream of the gorge. Bowler, Bastrzycki and E+O will follow up and develop exact wording.

Funding for Organizational Development discussed including possible FRCC workshop to improve effectiveness. Sinish lauded RMS webinars and River Rally. Petidmange and Hart will follow up and share more info.

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

- **Barkhamsted:** FALPS working on School Street plans. FALPS received \$2,000 gift from movie producers.

- **Hartland:** Nothing additional.

- **Colebrook:** Nothing additional.

- **New Hartford:** Murdock email advised there was nothing additional.

- **Canton:** Upper dam producing electricity. More works remains to be done when warmth returns.

- **MDC:** Reservoirs full. Meeting on MDC West Branch plans likely next month. Potential MDC alternate representative Lindsay Strole introduced herself.

- **FRWA:** Nothing additional.

- **NPS:** Petidmange briefly discussed his assumption of Upper and Lower duties and division of work with Lacy.

- **DEEP:** Noted Collinsville upper dam fish passage structures await completion after thaw and DEEP's intent to remove lower dam.

- **FRAA:** New Board with big plans. Expects 3 grant requests in near future. Swenson urges that river cleanup efforts be coordinated to maximize effectiveness and possible 3-25-22 date. Twenty professional river guides are now members of guide association.

- **River Steward:** Canton First Selectman Bob Bessel appreciated the work of the River Stewards and continues to work with Lumi. Bastrzycki did an audit of entire river stewards' website and was generally pleased with completeness and workmanship. He noted need to finalize kiosk content to allow designer Mary to proceed. For the benefit of newer members, Bastrzycki briefly reviewed what river stewards do and their role in furthering FRCC's mission under the guidance of E+O.

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

**Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Monday February 7, 2022 at 6:30 PM Zoom**

**Sub-Committee Resource Stewardship – Tuesday February 1, 2022 at 6:30 PM Zoom**

**Full Committee: February 28, March 21, April 18.**

**8. Adjourn :** 8:47 PM adjournment.