



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE

100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern

P.O. Box 395

Pleasant Valley, CT 06063

860-738-2456 farmingtonriver.org

Education and Outreach sub-committee

April 3, 2023 Minutes

via Zoom 6:33-7:28pm

In attendance: David Sinish (FRWA, subcommittee Chari) Dan Bowler (Hartland), Roger Behrens, Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted), Andrew Petitdemange (NPS) Stephan Bastryzcki (River Steward), Matt Vinick (Canton) Laura Hart (FRWA alt).

David called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Dan to ask Torrey from FRAA to join E&O subcommittee.

FRCC Annual Report – Laura picking up printed copies 4/4 to distribute at next committee meeting.

Town Annual Reports: Hartland and Barkhamsted are set - New Hartford, Canton, and Colebrook – find out Town Annual Report schedule and send them the write-up summary from Andrew.

Kiosks: In final review process. Goal is to have final drafts to submit to Mary Crombie (graphic designer) in early spring May. Reviews by Andrew, Stephan, and Laura in April to submit to Mary. Reminder that the current Satan’s Kingdom sign will be at the take out and new river flows/safety info for the new Satan’s Kingdom put-in.

- Will look at Lumi’s tone guide to have consistency on the panels.
- 4/11 meeting for review by review team.
- Laura to follow up with Canton re: new kiosk at new boat launch.

Stewards: Stephan has been in contact with 2 previous stewards who can continue this summer (Alyssa and Ryan). Interviewing 3 others in the next two weeks. Training on June 3rd. Scott Gausen, Park Ranger from the Springfield Armory with interpretation and training skills will conduct a 4-6 hour training for the steward team on user engagement and prompts.

Retreat Activities: actionable items include improving communication – creating an elevator pitch, mission statement and vision statement. Andrew to send out info to E&O for review.

Sustainable CT: discussed how FRCC can help the Towns achieve this. Currently provided information to Barkhamsted via Mario.

Satan’s Kingdom signage: Discussed how it detracts from “scenic” value. David to talk with Canton fire dept. if it has been useful in rescues. Andrew to ask other rivers on safety actions.

Outreach: FRAA River cleanup, Barkhamsted Earth Day Nature Festival, FALPS events, Land Trust events. Discussed how FRCC can join and help partner outreach events. How can we support the American Institute of Indian Studies with a grant to establish a partnership?

Barkhamsted Land Trust needs help with covering the costs of property insurance. To be brought up to R/S and/or full committee.

Website/online outreach: Stephan reported email forwarding has been resolved. E-newsletters should go out more frequently to discuss FRCC and River Steward happenings.

Anniversary events in 2024: 100th Anniversary of Peoples State Forest next year – tie in with FRCC 30th anniversary events. August 26, 2024 is the FRCC anniversary. Being thinking about ideas.

Adjourned 7:28pm.
