



Farmington River Coordinating Committee

Monthly Meeting
March 20, 2023
Location: Zoom

Attendees: Mario Santoro, Jim Buchok, Tom Carpenter, Matt Vinick, Alison Jassen, Dan Bowler, Torrey Collins, Andrew Petitdemange, Jim Randazzo, Pete Arrestad, Jackie Dias, David Sinish

Call to Order – at 7:06PM Roger Behrens, Chair

All highlighted yellow indicate vote taken.

Minutes and Reports

Approved Minutes of February 27, 2023 meeting. No revisions.

Treasurer's Report – Prepared by FRWA, Reported on by Matt Vinick, Treasurer. Approved.

Subcommittee Reports:

Executive – Roger Behrens, Chair

Nothing to report

Resource Stewardship – Alison Jassen, Subcommittee Chair

- CTDEEP met with R/S about authorizing trails for use by mtn bike (as a multi-use trails) in Nepaug SF. Motorized vehicles will be prohibited. More trails will be closed near water and sensitive habitat and use guided to stable high use areas.
- Trout Unlimited will be hosting an invasive clearing day on March 25, 9am – 12pm at the Frye Property (New Hartford)
- North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative support. This database supports the identification of and cataloging all culverts and bridge crossings in our region.
 - o Dan moves to approve \$1250. Jim seconds. Passes Unanimously.
- Colebrook requests funding for Natural Resource Inventory for \$7,000 ahead of the 2024 deadline required by the state. The town is funding a portion.
 - o Roger moves to approve \$7000. Laura seconds. Passes unanimously.
- Laura and Andrew will meet with UConn to develop scientific study database or library collection for FRCC and all Wild & Scenic Rivers in the state. They will update the committee at the next RS subcommittee meeting.
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Education and Outreach – David Sinish, Subcommittee Chair

- The kiosk content is being revised and edited for the back panels. Aiming for first draft by April and off to production by May 1.
- Please share FRCC summary “blurb” with

New Business/Other

- Several reps expressed interest in resuming meeting in-person (at Squires Tavern or Peoples State Forest). Perhaps every other month in the warm months is in-person.
 - o April full committee meeting will be held at Squires Tavern on April 17.

Local Updates/Organization Reports

Barkhamsted – Planning and Zoning workshop on Work-Live-Ride. – School street trail is moving forward, DEEP will control invasive plants without direct FRCC funding, they may approach FRCC for funding of signage. Barkhamsted Nature Fest April 30th!

Canton – River Smart projects will remediate polluted storm runoff entering the river (below upper river), it will include educational components.

Colebrook – Colebrook is on board with FRCC thanks to Green Snow Pro training reimbursement and funding for the NRI

Hartland - Hartland Land Trust newsletter wrote up the FRCC re: the Salmon Program in Middle schools.

New Hartford - Absent

MDC – Reservoir levels are full. Snow pack is variable but should be in good shape for the spring.

CT DEEP – no news

NPS – Budgets and workplans being submitted this month for next year, thanks to Laura for all her hard work!

FRWA - Water Quality Report complete and published (segmented by test sites and by town). River Smart program expanding in Winsted and Canton, including green infrastructure projects like rain gardens and downspout disconnects.

FRAA – River Clean-up on April 22 at Ovation Guitar. Invited to table at the Barkhamsted Nature Festival.

FVTU – Please join the March 25th invasive clearing day.

River Steward - Email systems from FRS and FRCC websites were out of sync with a recent update and no longer allowing the form on the websites to send emails to Stephan, Laura, and Andrew. We need to spend some time to problem solve this in a separate meeting

Next meeting dates –

- Full committee: April 17 (Squires Tavern) May 15, June 19
- Subcommittees: April 3 E&O, April 4 R/S

Upcoming Events –

- FVTU Invasive Clearing, March 25 at Frye Property

Adjourn @ 8:40 PM