



## Farmington River Coordinating Committee

### FRCC Full Committee Meeting

8/21/2023, 7:00 PM

### MEETING MINUTES

*Attendees:* Laura Hart, Jim Buchok, Alison Jassen, Roger Behrens, Mario Santoro, Tom Carpenter, William Coleman, Matt Vinick, Dan Bowler, Pete Aarrestad, Jim Randazzo, Andrew Petitdemange.

1. Call to Order – Roger Behrens, Chair 7:05PM

2. Approval of Minutes of July 17, 2023 meeting –

Add Roger to July Minutes.

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

All spending is tracking well as we near the end of the federal fiscal year. For more detail see the Treasurers Report spreadsheet.

4. Subcommittee Reports:

- Executive

- Discussion of Andrew's "Update from NPS" email. Concerns expressed that FRCC might get less support from NPS. Andrew reassured the FRCC that NPS staff would continue in much the same capacity as they have experienced in recent years. FRCC can expect support in all projects they need support within the capacity of NPS.
- Andrew along with NPS colleagues Jamie Fosburgh and Liz Lacy will be meeting with Army Corps of Engineers in September to better understand how they manage water releases and how those may be changed.

- Resource Stewardship

- Recommendation to fund \$2451.00 for FRWA chloride loggers for Jim Brook in Canton. (Behind Farmington Shoppes and flows into Roaring Brook
  - Helps move FRWA into continuous data collection to catch those changes as they are happening and understand the sources of the chloride surges.
  - Dan Bowler moves to spend \$2451 in support of FRWA's purchase and deployment of data loggers. Alison Jassen seconds. Laura abstains. Passes unanimously.
- FRWA will be working closely next year with River Restoration Network, DEEP, TNC, and TU to identify culverts in disrepair and move projects from design to construction.

## - Education and Outreach

- Quilt at the LOB September. Quilt event on September 18 10am.
- Open House planned for 10/5
- Kiosks panel design is going well. Riverton is almost finalized.
  - Collinsville kiosk content is set.
  - Committee thinks that the Tubing Pullout from Satan's Kingdom should be placed in or near the "independent" tubers parking lot in Town of Canton land.

## 4. New Business/Other

- FALPS and others are preparing for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Peoples State Forest (October 2024). They will send a letter introducing some ideas with which they hope to have FRCC contribute. Will be seeking funding next year to support the production of a video.
  - Roger asked if FRCC would consider supporting it if a funding proposal were submitted.
- Debate of ideas and news of flow coming out of dams, water temps, etc.
  - Maximum releases from Colebrook of 3000cfs, when it happens, turns over water in Hogback every day disrupting temp stratification.
  - The In-Stream Flow Study should be redone given new data and new models. This is all encompassing and if completed could contribute to establishing a new flow regime in the future.
  - Some decisions about releases are influenced by bigger regional decisions outside of local Army Corps of Engineers and MDC water managers.
  - Drastic lows and highs are problematic. Can we have real-time calibrated releases? Is it possible and how would it be implemented?
  - NPS should invite Army Corp of Engineers to be part of FRCC. Andrew will float this idea when meeting with ACOE.
  - Find out where else in the country ACOE have changed its rules and revamped its releases.

## 6. Local Updates/Organization Reports

Barkhamsted – no news

Canton – no news

Colebrook – no news

Hartland – Property at 532 Hogback Rd. that had manipulated small tributary looks abandoned and weed covered. Water overflowed the road during the last storm.

New Hartford - absent

MDC – no news. Colebrook is filled just below flood stage.

CT DEEP - 1) Monitoring flow and temperature on the Farmington. Rainy summer increased flows too greatly and prevented releases from the CTDEEP cold water pool to regulate temps. 2) Planning brood stock collection week of Sept 11.

NPS – no news

FRWA – no news

FRAA – no news

FVTU – RBV studies demonstration with Project Healing Waters. Sampling above and below Riverton and it was disappointing to see the poor conditions. Dams interfere on the river and starve the river of sediment. 2) September 13 River Day in Barkhamsted, 3) FVTU picnic Matthies Grove September 16

River Steward - absent

7. Next meeting dates –

Full committee:

September 18, October 5 Open House, November 20

Subcommittees:

Mon. Sept 11 – Education & Outreach 6:30 PM by Zoom meeting

Tues. Sept 5– Resource Stewardship 6:30 PM by Zoom meeting

8. Upcoming Events –

- FRWA River Cleanup September 23

- Burlington Fish Hatchery event 100 years – September 23

- Quilt at the LOB September, Opening 9/18

- Open House 10/5

- David's memorial planned 10/21 PSF

9. Adjourn 8:47