



Farmington River Coordinating Committee

FRCC Monthly Meeting & Holiday Potluck

6:00 PM, December 18, 2023

Squires Tavern, Barkhamsted

Attendees: Alison Jassen (Colebrook), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Steward), Matt Goclowski (CT DEEP), Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted), Tom Stanton (Colebrook), Bill Coleman (Canton), Torrey Collins (FRAA), Tom Carpenter (FVTU), Matt Vinick (Canton), Derrick Kirkpatrick (FRAA), Roger Behrens (Barkhamsted), Jim Buchok (FVTU), Andrew Petitdemange (NPS)

Called to order at 6:40PM

Approval of November Minutes

TREASURERS REPORT

- New dollars for FY24 are incorporated into balance.
- Small amount rolled over from FY23. Laura and Andrew are allocating.
- Expect funding to be similar next year for FY25
 - Begin thinking of budget needs and projects for next year. New workplans and budgets need to be submitted in March.

EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

- Andrew will recirculate notes from September meeting with ACOE
- Q's for USACE in January
 - What are the avenues for a short-term solution?
 - What options does USACE have to improve consistency of flow?
 - Are there proactive approaches?
 - Can you give us an example of dams that do more than flood control?
 - Any capital improvements on Colebrook that could effect flow?
 - Can you explain the communication process between MDC and USACE?
 - How can a group like FRCC help in this process?
- Could we update the river economics study? Flow study?
 - River flow working group will explore possibilities and budget range

RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

- Water quality monitoring is underway.
- FRCC received a thank you note from NHLT for \$1500 for further land acquisition assistance.

- Culvert training coming up for towns
- October 28, TU met with FRWA at 532 Hogback Rd culvert to discuss how to remove barrier to flow. TU will draft designs to improve connectivity.
- West River Rd Project – no updates though some concern about completing project before June 30 deadline after which funding will expire.
- FALPS submitted \$10k grant request for tree planting. Resource Stewardship will review.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Junior Ranger Books update underway. Laura, Stephan, and Andrew are revising and will consider sending to graphic designer or redesigning in house. Printing likely to be done by NPS.
- Kiosks – Canton panel is being worked on. Stephan is updating map. Sarah Faulkner working with Conservation Commission to develop back panel info. Front Panel will be FRCC W&S.
 - Mary Crombie retiring, will need to find new designer in future.
- Informational one-pager regarding river flow. Draft under review: comments welcome.
 - Aiming for more “info graphic” than winding explanation.

New Business

Reps expressed need for new signs at monofilament receptacles along the river. Will be addressed by E&O in coming months.

Update

Canton – Boat launch is completed!

Colebrook - Tom Stanton has rejoined FRCC as the Alternate Rep!

TU – Reds surveys up tributaries are underway.

FRAA – Reds Survey data and video footage being collected. Planning angler survey for 2024.

DEEP – Conducting statewide 2024 angler survey in spring.

Adjourn: 8:30 PM