



## Farmington River Coordinating Committee

**FRCC Monthly Meeting**

**7:00 PM, June 17, 2024**

**Hybrid Meeting hosted at Squires Tavern and FRWA Zoom**

*Attendees: Laura Hart, Dan Bowler, Bill Coleman, Roger Behrens, Tom Stanton, Jim Buchok, Tom Carpenter, Stephan Bastrzycki, Matt Coleman, Matt Vinick, Mario Santoro, Peter Arrestad, Torrey Collins, Jim Randazzo, Allison Jassen, Derrick Kirkpatrick,*

*Called to order at 7:06 PM*

### **March Minutes and TREASURERS REPORT**

- Minutes approved.
- Treasurers Report – Expenses May 16 to June 10, 2024: \$249 for microphone for hybrid meetings; \$669 for River Steward apparel; \$370.90 for FRCC stickers.

### **EXECUTIVE SUBCOMITTEE**

- No Updates

### **RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP**

- Jerry Milne will submit map of bittersweet to be targeted for removal, near W River Rd American Legion Forest.
- Second letter of violation will be sent to home owner on Hog Rd regarding need to replace culvert
- Still waiting on agreement between MDC and Army Corp to resume interim flows
- Lower Collinsville Dam Removal: Set to begin 2025.

### **EDUCATION & OUTREACH**

- Nepaug Trails Kiosk Request: As a result of the new cooperation between mountain bikers, CTDEEP forests, and their project to improve multi-use trails, the coalition asked if FRCC would help fund a kiosk. NEMBA would create one side and FRCC would fund the construction and panel designed.
  - Laura Hart moves to fund the construction of a kiosk, Matt V seconds, Unanimous

### **New Business**

- PWSR Gathering on the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Wild and Scenic Rivers on October 21st-23rd.
  - Travel and Lodging can be paid for by FRCC. Andrew will find out if meal stipend can be covered.
- FRCC, DEEP, and Elected Officials Paddle: Friday June 28, Lisa Seminara, Mark Anderson, FRCC Reps, DEEP Staff
  - ***Reps, please reach out to local First Selectman to encourage attendance.***
- USACE (Matt Coleman) announced that MDC is requesting the releases of water to keep the Riverton gauge at just over 200cfs.
  - MDC (Jim Randazzo) added that interim flow release strategy is being reviewed by MDC after approval from USACE. Coordination between CTDEEP, USACE, and MDC. Since Memorial Day, there's been very little precipitation, which has impacted flow recently.

## Updates

- **Barkhamsted:** No Updates
- **Canton:** No Update
- **Colebrook:** No Update
- **Hartland:** No Update
- **New Hartford:** No Update
- **CT DEEP:**
  - Christopher Shepard is organizing CTDEEP staff to come to the 6/28 paddle. Some staff may get pulled away for event with Governor.
    - CTDEEP reviewing interim flow plan submitted by MDC. Most likely flow management will be considered more broadly than just fish. IT will be a complicated issue but a real opportunity.
  - CT DEEP focusing on water temp right now and interested in building in flexibility to interim plan for the coming months. There isn't enough cold water coming down the West Branch to satisfy cold water needs downstream of Collinsville.
- **FRWA:** Friday 6/21 FilmFest at Brewery Legitimus as a fundraiser for FRWA. Please attend.
- **TU:** No Updates
- **FRAA:**
  - Proposing to purchase HOBO data loggers that send real time data to CTDEEP. (Pete A. will set up meeting with Chris Bellucci to consider this offer).
  - Noticing decline in macroinvertebrate populations over the last eight years. Early season mayflies are down drastically. May employ entomologist to study health of macroinvertebrate populations.
  - Discussion of invasive knotweed and what might be done. (Andrew P. will put reps in touch with Knotweed Research Group at UMass Amherst).
- **NPS:** No Updates
- **MDC:** Hogback Dam kiosk display is under review and MDC will get back to FRCC soon with approval.
- **River Stewards:** Season off to a great start with lots of outreach. Participating with Mainstream paddling event as well as Lower Farmington committee paddle.
  - June 28 5pm Paddle with the Stewards

- July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade in Barkhamsted
- July 6 Nepaug Trail work day with NEMBA coalition
- July 7 Family Fun Day
- July 17 Barkhamsted Camp Week
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Next meeting July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 19<sup>th</sup>

*Adjourn 8:04 PM*