



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern
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Education and Outreach sub-committee

October 6, 2025 Minutes

In attendance: Dan Bowler (Hartland and subcommittee Chair), Laura Hart (FRWA), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Stewards), Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted), Matt Vinick (Canton)

Called to order by Dan at 4:33pm

Quilt:

- Dan to reach out to MaryPat about the April showing at the CT Convention Center.
- Dan to follow up with Lisa Williams from the New Britain Museum of American Art.
- The Lower Quilt is at the Granby Public Library until the 29th.
- Stephan is working on adding the Lower Quilt information to the website and creating forms for people to request showings for both quilts or individually.

Publications:

- Out of Jr. River Ranger booklets.
 - Laura to check the FRWA office and get a quote from Goulet for a quantity discount (1,000 copies cost \$3,391 in the last order). No rush, as we will not need them until spring.
 - Should print the new water trail maps – funds remain from this past fiscal year (cost for 1,000 copies is about \$1,000).
 - About 350 booklets were handed out at River Day. Many were also distributed at the Austin Hawes Campsite, PSF, and other events.
- **Website Upgrades**
 - Possible new website platform – potential project for the coming year. May hire someone to handle the transfer of information to a new system (currently 3 sites and 2 hosting companies).
 - Decided to combine all three websites into one to reduce confusion between FRCC and River Stewards, creating a one-stop shop for all things FRCC. This will improve outreach, simplify maintenance, and reduce hosting fees.
 - We will keep the farmingtonriversteward.org domain and use it as a redirect.
 - Stephan to get quotes from local contractors for this task.
 - Need to discuss the Quilt and how it will be incorporated—possibly add to the Lower’s website.

Outreach:

- **October Open House**
 - Thursday, October 23, 6–8 p.m.
 - Potluck signup sheet to be updated and resent; Travellin’ Trout to be arranged.
 - Kaitlin is working on getting the photos printed on foam core through Goulet.
 - Laura to create a poster to share as an email attachment for FRCC reps to send out.
 - Laura to send an email blast and post on social media.

- **River Day – September 17**

- Stephan ran a scavenger hunt for 3rd graders with an assistant River Steward.
- The event was successful again this year; approximately 350 Jr. River Ranger booklets were handed out.

River Stewards:

- Stephan is working on the year-end report to be sent out soon.
- Final funds: \$2,788.17 remaining in the River Stewards budget (already approved), to be spent on maps, stickers, and a pop-up tent as River Steward supplies.

Other:

- The Wild & Scenic Film Festival will be held March 20, 2026, at Miss Porter's Auditorium (more space and ties into the dam removal completed this September). Laura to submit a grant proposal in November or December.
- Stephan mentioned that Riverfront Recapture has software to analyze film footage of the river to obtain user counts.
- We are in the new fiscal year and have our funding available per the work plan.

Next subcommittee meeting: November 3 at 4:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.