



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road - Squires Tavern
P.O. Box 395
Pleasant Valley, CT 06063
860-379-0282 **www.farmingtonriver.org**

Approved Minutes of Regular FRCC Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2009
100 East River Road, Pleasant Valley - Squire's Tavern

Present: Tom Stanton (Colebrook Rep./Vice-chair), Fred Jones (Hartland Rep./Chair), Eileen Fielding (FRWA Alt./Treasurer), Edna Travis (Colebrook Alt.), Tom Karpeichik (FRAA Alt.), Jean Miller (Barkhamsted Rep.), Nicki Hall (Hartland Alt.), Tim Anthony (MDC Rep.), Alison Murdock (New Hartford Rep.), Bill Roberts (Canton Rep.), Liz Lacy (FRCC Director/NPS Alt.)

Not Present: DEP

- 1. Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Chair Jones at 7:00 PM.
- 2. Approval of minutes of October 19, 2009 meeting:** Minutes approved as presented.
- 3. Treasurers' Report:** Fielding presented the Treasurer's Report. Of note was that \$10,000 has been moved to the Lower Farmington Study Committee account and will be treated as a loan. The money in the Wachovia account will remain there at least for the time being.
- 4. Presentation:** Anthony presented a fascinating and informative slide show on the history of the MDC System and its role in managing the Farmington River.
- 5. Old Business - Subcommittee Updates:**

Resource Stewardship -

Invasive Plant Management project update: Anthony said that Betsy Corrigan had given a presentation at the last subcommittee meeting. She is stressing that it is important to be realistic about our goals. Lacy reported that the final draft is due November 30, and she recommends that we consider that to be a first draft, with the final draft due the end of December. Unanimous agreement. Corrigan will also provide a recommendation on plantings for the New Hartford Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Greenwoods Anglers Trail update: Anthony reported that Tiffany Caisse is still working to provide us with better resolution on topographical data. Once we have that, we will set up another on-site meeting on the site. No more news on the signage from Rich Strolis of FRAA.

Mountain Road Stream Erosion Project: Lacy said she will contact Don Stein and Jim MacBroom for a meeting to discuss the scope of the project on which the Yale students are working and ensure that the road and stream concerns are being included as well as the agricultural elements.

Education and Outreach -

Etiquette Package: Jones reported that the waterproof map with etiquette guidelines on the back was still in progress. He expects final language from Dave Sinish by December 1. Still need to get input from FRAA and complete the project by March 1.

Kiosks: Miller reported that Mary Crombie has been given the measurement information and will be sending the designs to Joseph Merritt soon.

Website: Lacy urged everyone to look at the new interactive map. Roberts reported that the website - CollinsvilleCT.org has a link to our website.

Scholarships: Roberts will start up the scholarship activities at the high schools around the end of the year, in accordance with the schools' scholarship deadlines.

Newsletter: Lacy reported that the newsletter had just gone to the printer.

Executive -

Grants: Hartland Land Trust: Jones reported that the Hartland Land Trust hopes to utilize the additional funds which had been authorized by their 2006 grant but not yet spent. He suggested an educational project with Sharon Audubon to develop trails, along with appropriate signage, brochures and kiosks. He would also like to use \$500 for a training by Tim Abbott on best practices for land deals. Executive Committee recommends approval for these expenditures. Unanimously approved.

Management Plan update: Lacy suggested the best way to move ahead with the management plan revisions was to have a retreat of the full Board. She emphasized that this is an exercise in which everyone should be involved and provide input. She will try to schedule a weekend retreat in either January or February.

6. New Business/Other

Election of Officers: Lacy reported that while Susan Petersen has agreed to assume the role of Secretary, we still needed someone to take the Chairperson role. Edna Travis volunteered. A slate of Edna Travis - Chair, Tom Stanton - Vice chair, Susan Petersen – Secretary, and Bill Roberts – Treasurer (with FRWA retaining Fiscal Agent status) was then moved and seconded. Unanimous approval.

Next Year's Work Plan: Lacy handed out a document entitled "Possible FRCC projects- 2010." A number of projects from 2009 had been deleted and several new projects added. There was general discussion about the need to act on this promptly and requests for clarification on some of the additions and deletions. In particular, the status of the Canton vernal pool project, the scope of two new projects proposed by FRWA -- one on Biodiversity and one entitled "Healthy Corridor Habitat Inventory" -- and a desire to include tributary studies, which could include a watershed assessment of the Still River, and a management study for Sandy Brook, which is being requested by a number of land trusts. We also requested more information on the NW Conservation District study of Morgan Brook. Next year's projects will be further delineated at the subcommittee meetings and then approved at the December meeting.

7. Town Reports:

Canton: Roberts reported that he expected that Canton would be applying for a land protection grant to provide it with access to the river in North Canton next to the McLean game refuge.

New Hartford: Discussion of activities along the river in the area of Mainstream canoe and the former Waring site. Lacy has contacted Karl Nielsen who has indicated that all are in compliance with the applicable regulations. Lacy and others also noted that they had been informed that a large object the size of a small refrigerator has been seen in the river near Prestige Cleaners.

Next Meeting Dates: December 21 Holiday potluck dinner at Edna Travis' house, 397 Smith Hill Road, Colebrook

Adjourned 9:30 PM