



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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Approved Minutes of Regular FRCC Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2009
Canton Community Center- 40 Dyer Ave. Collinsville- Room C

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

Not Present: DEP, Canton

1. Call to order. Meeting called to order by Chair Jones at 7:00 PM.

2. Approval of minutes of August 17, 2009. Minutes approved.

3. Treasurers’ Report: Fielding presented the Treasurer’s Report. Discussion of the merits of moving the Wachovia account to another bank. Fielding will explore other options. Fielding also advised that she will be preparing another ‘ask’ to the NPS and that this would be a combined request with the Lower Farmington study committee. Fielding mentioned that because the Study is running short on funds at the moment and FRCC has extra – the Study will take \$10,000 from FRCC coffers and she will adjust the books accordingly.

4. Old Business- Subcommittee Updates.

Resource Stewardship

Invasive Plant Management project update: Betsy Corrigan is working on her report, due at the end of the year. We also will be getting recommendations from her on the effort to develop a management plan for the invasives at the New Hartford Wastewater Treatment Plant and possibly provide some screening as well.

Greenwoods Anglers Trail update. Anthony reported on a meeting with Tiffany Caisse to discuss the mapping data. Tiffany will provide additional information, including topographical data, to assist in designing the trail. Karpeichik reported that Strolis is looking into signage and that FRAA is also working with the DEP to put up signs warning about preservation of fish eggs by the river’s edge.

Mountain Road Stream Erosion Project. The Town has obtained \$500,000 from an earmark to USDA funding and the Yale students have been working on different segments of the project. In the event that any work is done on the culvert, the project will require an Army Corps permit, in which case FRCC will review the plans. The NPS must give its approval by signing off on the Corps permit.

Colebrook Land Proposal. Anthony on behalf of the subcommittee recommended that FRCC fund the request of the Colebrook Land Trust to up \$5000 to assist in purchase of land in the Kitchel Wilderness area. He noted that the project met many of our criteria, being on Sandy Brook, and that the application was well-written, including a time line and action steps. Request was approved unanimously by those present (Canton and DEP voted affirmatively after the meeting.).

Land Policies: The subcommittee reported that it had reviewed the existing policy and concluded that is was basically sound as written. Only two changes were proposed (1. requesting 60 days advance notice on all requests; and 2. noting that all listed criteria were considered and that the more criteria met by a proposal the more likely the chances for funding) Lacy handed out a draft showing the changes, which was approved.

Other: Discussion of the need for regular updates on the status of FRWA projects. Fielding said she would be getting us updates shortly. She also suggested the Aimee Petras could become her alternate on the Board, which would free Fielding up for other activities and give Aimee a better sense of the operation of FRCC. This idea was generally well received.

Jones reported that work on the Riverton Bridge was completed.

Education and Outreach:

Etiquette Package. Jones reported that the BPA-free water bottles have begun to be distributed – including at our Open House – which was a big success! The waterproof map is also under way, although Mary Crombie has other projects for FRCC she is working on simultaneously: the newsletter and the kiosk.

Kiosks. Miller sent around drafts of the proposals for the back of three kiosks (Satan's Kingdom, Greenwoods and Riverton). It was suggested that the background on the topo map for Satan's Kingdom be made lighter. Jones will measure the backs of each kiosk and provide that information to Lacy and Miller, who will give it to Mary Crombie. It was also noted that the kiosks at Peoples State Forest and Church pool have been damaged; replacements will be ordered..

Others

Lacy reported that the map for the web site should be completed by the end of the week. Any one with any questions should contact Lacy.

Executive:

Grants – no new applications.

Other. Management Plan update. Lacy reported that the executive committee had met and discussed the revision of the management plan. It had reviewed other more recent plans and identified a number of topics to incorporate in the revised plan, including a set of maps and a section on invasives. It was also felt that the revisions should be done in concert with the Lower Farmington W&S Study Committee to ensure consistency between the plans and to produce a joint user capacity plan, The newsletter contains information on the revision project.

5. New Business/Other

Town Reports:

New Hartford: Murdoch reported on a permit request to store vehicles and chemicals on the bank of the river in the Pine Meadow area near Satan's Kingdom. She will follow up. Lacy noted that Phyllis Webb had indicated to her that there is still an interest in FRCC's efforts to come up with a planting plan at the WWTP.

Colebrook: Travis reported on her efforts to work with the Selectmen and the Conservation Commission to move the road maintenance grant project forward.. .

6. Next Meeting Dates: November 16 (Anthony will discuss MDC's role, including the creation of the dams, flows, and riparian rights); Travis has offered to host the holiday potluck dinner at a date in December to be determined.

Adjourned 7:50 PM to meet with the Lower Farmington and Salmon Brook W&S Study Committee in Room E.