



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern
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Minutes Regular FRCC Meeting
November 19, 2018
100 East River Rd, Squire’s Tavern
Barkhamsted, CT

Attendance: New Hartford (Alison Murdock, Committee Chair by telephone), Barkhamsted (Roger Behrens), FRWA (David Sinish, E&O sub comm.), CTDEEP (Susan Peterson), National Park Service (Liz Lacy, FRCC Director), Hartland (Dan Bowler, Bob Beeman), Canton (Lans Perry), River Steward (Stephan Bastrzycki), FRWA Staff (Laura Hart), Intern (Megan White)

Absent: Farmington River Anglers, Metropolitan District Commission, Colebrook

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by vice-chair Bowler

2. Presentation - 2018 Invasive Plant Management Program – by botanist Betsy Corrigan. Corrigan was hired by FRCC nine years ago at the beginning of this program. She and FRCC interns, volunteers, and River Stewards worked on approximately 55 sites in 2018. Education has been provided to landowners, as well as removal of species in several areas. The intention of early detection and early removal is hampered by the enormity of the project, some very short periods in which to effectively work and weather. Emphasis is put on sites that could use the Farmington as a vehicle to spread seeds.

3. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of September 17, 2018 meeting were approved.

4. Treasurer’s Report: Laura Hart presented two reports: one dated October 16, 2018 and one dated November 12, 2018. There was no FRCC meeting in October due to the Open House. For the combined two month period the balance brought forward was \$26,669.90 and the remaining balance was \$22,296.25. The final 2018 income installment of \$15,000 from NPS was recorded on 9/21/18. Expenses were for intern stipends, water quality monitoring, river stewards, invasive plant program, annual Open House, and Wild and Scenic 50th event. The FRWA temporary restricted account was used for WSR50 and spent down to zero. Hart also reported that accountants discovered an unused FRCC scholarship account in their review of the FRWA records - the Pat Keener Scholarship Fund (which was established through donations to FRWA in Pat’s honor after her passing). The account balances as of 10/16/18 are checking account \$19,601.61, and Pat Keener Scholarship account \$2,694.64, totaling \$22,296.25. Although we cannot solicit contributions, unsolicited contributions may be made to the Scholarship fund - made payable to Farmington River Watershed Association, for deposit into the Pat Keener Scholarship fund.

5. Subcommittee reports.

A. Executive:

- **The 2018-2019 budget of \$105,000 and workplan were approved. Motion - Bowler, Second - Perry.** Lacy to seek approval from absent members Colebrook and MDC. (Tom Stanton of Colebrook and Jim Randazzo of the MDC subsequently voted in favor – making the **vote unanimous**.)
- **Officers of Chair Dan Bowler, Vice-Chair Tom Stanton, Treasurer David Sinish and Secretary Lans Perry were elected.** Alison Murdock will be the Resource Steward Sub-committee chair, and David Sinish will continue as

chair of Education and Outreach. Lacy to seek approval from absent members Colebrook and MDC. (Tom Stanton of Colebrook and Jim Randazzo of MDC subsequently voted in favor making the **vote unanimous.**)

-Discussion of title of “alternate” ensued. Discussion led to the encouragement of all members (both regular and alternates) to come to meetings. All present contribute to discussions and positive work efforts of the committee.

B. Education and Outreach:

Sinish reported on the meeting on October 15, 2018:

- Ginny Apple discussed nylon fishing line collection boxes, their possible locations and maintenance. She will do further research.
- The possibility of a Farmington River app was discussed, Bastrycki prepared a document and presented at this meeting. Reaction was that it was complicated and expensive project and there is a local resource.
- Quilt opening at the State Capitol was a success, recorded by Hart and the video is now on Simsbury Community TV. Video to be put on FRCC Quilt site. Quilt now at NCCC, the site of FRWA annual meeting.
- River Recreational planning group has met and will meet on 12/3 prior to E&O. American Rivers study protocol to be used.
- Discussed creation of a video explaining history, mission and responsibilities of FRCC member groups to protect river segment.

C. Resource/Stewardship: Lacy reported:

- **Gravel operation along Sandy Brook in Colebrook:** No update.
- **Water Quality:** River sampling concluded on November 7. Data compilation begins.
- **170 Main Street “Main Stream” buildings in New Hartford:** Committee voted to approve and send a letter to New Hartford Selectmen and Land Use Boards reminding them of their obligations and responsibilities re decisions within the Wild and Scenic corridor.
- **Barkhamsted:** The town submitted a grant request in the amount of \$20,000 to **develop engineering drawings for streambank remediation of the confluence of Sandy Brook and Farmington along West River Road.** This is a project that FRCC has been working with the town and Princeton Hydro for many months. Total cost of engineering plans is \$31,506. After discussion **Request of \$20,000 approved. Motion – Murdock, Second-Perry.**

5. Local Updates in addition to those noted above:

DEEP - With a new governor to take office there will most likely be a new DEEP commissioner.

Canton- FERC has awarded a license to Canton for hydro at the Dam.

6. Next Meeting Dates:

Holiday Pot-Luck at Alison’s on December 17.

Full committee: January 28, February 25, March 25, April 15.

E and O - Dec 3 by phone at 6:30 preceded by River Use plan work group at 5:30.

Resource Stewardship - Dec 4 6:00 by phone.

7. Adjourn: 9:02PM

ROLE OF TOWN REPS Reminder

May meeting’s discussion led to the need to report issues to town land use officer. Further, FRCC town reps need to meet with town land use boards to remind them of purpose, accomplishments and resource of FRCC.

Reps should also follow their town’s minutes of IWWA and Planning and Zoning and report at each meeting.