



FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE
100 East River Road – Squire’s Tavern
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Regular FRCC Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 16, 2019
Alison Murdock’s House – 14 Willow Lane New Hartford, CT
(Followed by Holiday Potluck)

Attendance: Barkhamsted (Mario Santoro and Roger Behrens, Alternate), Hartland (Dan Bowler, Committee Chair), CT DEEP (Pete Aarrestad, Representative), FRWA (Bill Dornbos, FRWA Executive Director, Alternate) National Park Service (Liz Lacy, FRCC Director), New Hartford (Alison Murdock, RS Subcomm. Chair), Farmington Rivers Angler Association (Mark Swenson, Representative), Stephan Bastrzycki (River Steward)

Guests: Barbara Behrens, Donna Bastrzycki

Absent: MDC, Colebrook, Canton

1. Regular Meeting called to order: at 6:50 PM by Dan Bowler

2. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of November 18, 2019 meeting were consensually approved.

3. Treasurer’s Report: Farmington River Watershed Association (the fiscal agent of FRCC) staff prepared the Treasurer’s report dated 12/10/2019, which was presented by Bowler. The beginning total checking balance was \$12,000.40. The Pat Keener Scholarship Fund balance is \$1,194.64 and was unchanged during the month. Payments amounting \$5,580.17 from FRCC checking were made for sponsorship of W&S Film Fest, Stream Crossing surveys, and partial payment for West River Road project grant to Barkhamsted. A final fy2019 payment of \$25,000 from NPS funds was deposited. The ending total checking account balance was \$31,420.23. The NPS funds balance is now \$105,000.00 for fy2020. After discussion, the report was consensually approved.

4. Subcommittee reports:

- **Executive:** Nothing reported.

- **Resource Stewardship:** Discussed a proposal from New Hartford Land Trust for assistance in protecting a parcel of land in New Hartford. Documents to be distributed and reviewed by Dec. 20. Information was to remain confidential until further notice.

- **Education and Outreach:**

- Discussed new draft of map produced by Bastrzycki for kiosks and water trail brochure. Also talked about the possible need for new kiosk structures and what that would entail in both materials and cost.

5. Local Updates and Organizational Reports:

- **Barkhamsted:** A new sign will appear at Saville Dam: “A River Valley Transformed” produced by the Barkhamsted Historical Society.
- **FRWA:** Dornbos mentioned news regarding a federal law that had passed to ban PFAS in firefighting foam at military airports – which could set a good example for other airports nationwide. Did not get progress with Safe Drinking Water Act or CERCLA (hazardous waste management law).
- **MDC:** Jim Randazzo asked that Lacy report the following:
 - The USACOE Colebrook River Dam gate project seems to be going smoothly and is on schedule.
 - MDC West Branch reservoir still drawn down 70 ft. +/- for USACOE Dam repair project at Colebrook River Lake.
 - Repairs to two of the three gate passages in Colebrook Dam have been completed.
 - Repairs to the third and last gate passage are just beginning and are on schedule.
 - ACOE Work expected to be completed mid- January 2020.
 - After that MDC will refill Goodwin / West Branch Reservoir very slowly to protect the dam.
 - Should have West Branch reservoir back to normal pool by early March 2020.
 - Recent precipitation and snow-melt have put copious quantities of water in the reservoirs.
- **NPS:** Looking like a federal budget will pass and will avoid shutdown.
- **FRAA:** Discussing PFAS issues.

**6. Next Meeting Dates: Sub-committee Education and Outreach - Mon. Jan. 6 at 6:30 PM by phone
Resource and Stewardship – Tues. Jan. 7 at 6:30 PM by phone
(866-423-6894 code 9815966)**

Full Committee: January 27 for Jan and Feb, March 16, April 20.

7. Adjourn: 7:30 adjournment.