

## CRJC Headwaters Subcommittee

### Draft Minutes

Wednesday, October 5, 2011  
Columbia Town Hall

#### Present:

Bill Schomburg, Chair, Columbia  
Ed Mellet, Groveton  
Kevin McKinnon, Colebrook  
Gary Paquette, Stratford  
Ken Hastings, Columbia  
Mary Sloat, CRJC  
Tara Bamford, North Country Council

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ed Mellett at 7:00 PM.

#### 1. Housekeeping

a. Introductions were made. Mary Sloat and Tara Bamford explained that staff support for CRJC was now being provided via a contract with Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) who in turn subcontracted support for the Headwaters and Riverbend Subcommittees to North Country Council. It was mentioned that continuity and information sharing among the five subcommittees had been facilitated by Adair and that Tara should make sure to send minutes to Rachel at UVLSRPC so one person still sees all of them.

b. Minutes of June 1, 2011 were reviewed and no changes were identified but they could not be adopted since there was not a quorum.

c. Election of officers was deferred to a future meeting.

d. The membership list was discussed and members agreed to get in touch with various individuals regarding their interest in continuing and/or suggestions for filling vacancies.

e. It was agreed to continue meeting in Columbia (via Bill) in the warmer months and Colebrook (via Kevin) in the winter. Tara agreed to fax the agenda to the town clerks to post.

(f. Update on staffing was covered under a.)

g. Process for permit reviews will be to have additional meetings if needed between the quarterly meetings without staff. Tara will send out the notices. Ed will review permit applications with town reps to decide if a meeting is needed.

#### 2. Permit Reviews

a. Between meetings the following was received - Groveton – Fire Pond with dam, 5 miles from Conn R., Con Comm had reviewed and signed off on permit.

b. Reviewed at the meeting-

Pittsburg, 1st Lake, Rcvd DES Aug 29, Marylin Swain, 99 Timberland Rd., Pittsburg. Shoreland permit application for excavation for foundation below existing cabin in existing footprint and replace lean-to with no excavation. It appears that Transcanada wasn't notified. It was agreed that DES should be asked to verify that the project is ok with them relative to their interests in the shoreline before granting the permit. Tara will notify DES.

Loopley, Valerie & Tyler, Cedar Stream Rd., Clarksville, shoreland permit, Sept 15., Lake Francis, crawl space under camp, no comments.

Sep. 20, 1st Lake, Shoreland Permit Application, remove shed and replace with larger boat storage, has existing stormwater management system, Transcanada was notified, no comments.

Sept. 19, Town of Pittsburg, dredge and fill application, Crawford Brook Water Main in Clarksville, Horozon Engineering, pump station and well to tie well to distribution system, brook crossing to tie new well to main that crosses river already to go to the village, no comments.

It was also announced that the VT Better Back Roads Grant Program is accepting applications and that these grants can be used to improve stormwater management. Ed noted that roads he has seen wash out normally predate today's best management practices. It was also noted that towns need to be reminded to ditch roads during the dry season. It was agreed to provide a letter of support if any towns are interested in applying. Tara offered to send the info to Vermont reps not present.

3. The erosion at the cemetery in Groveton was discussed as a large project requiring grant funds.

It was reported that the Colebrook bank erosion project went back to rip rap instead of log jams to reduce cost from about 2 mil to \$470,000. It will also include a 25 ft riparian buffer with plantings and a conservation easement. It was also noted that the Maidstone rip rap is all revegetated now after 3 years with trees growing up in the stone.

Ed reported that a Northumberland property owner contacted him about an erosion problem and he referred them to DES.

4. CRJC and CR Byway updates- CRJC schedule will be on-line. Executive Committee meetings will be in Lebanon at UVLSRPC and full meetings every other month will rotate. The CR Byway is now a separate entity. In NH Governor and Council needs to approve the CRJC money coming through DES – 60 k over 2 years. Members were encouraged to let Ray Burton know the importance of this funding.

5. Other Business

The proposed Northern Pass powerline was discussed. It was reported that CRWC/David Dean's comments didn't oppose the project but did ask that water quality impact measures be in place. It was reported that some people in Columbia are already selling land to the Northern

Pass and that some opponents are starting to buy easements in order to help other landowners keep their land. An upcoming public meeting on the proposed route by opponents was discussed. It was noted that in Maine a longer line has been proposed that will be buried.

Bill Schomburg reported on the Upper Connecticut River Watershed Cooperative Invasive Species Management project in which he participates for the Headwaters Subcommittee.

Tara reported that a Shoreland Act update will be given on December 15 at 7 PM at the Littleton Senior Center.

6. Next meeting was scheduled for January 12th.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

#### Task List-

Tara- DES re Transcanada not noticed on shoreland permit, send better backroads grant to vt towns, send minutes to Rachel, tell Rachel \$ needs, contact Kevin re January 12 meeting location, fax minutes to town clerks, get in touch with Rachel to see what the plan is for town reports.

Ed, Mary, Kevin, Bill, and Gary – Work on membership.

#### Future agenda items-

Minutes of June 1, 2011

Officers