

CRJC Riverbend Subcommittee
Minutes
Thursday, July 19, 2018
7:00PM
Littleton Community Center,
Littleton, NH

Attendance:

Jan Edick (Littleton)
Jim Sherrard (Littleton)
Rick Walling (Bath)
Bill Graves (Barnet)
Pauline Corzilius (Haverhill)
Michael Nocky (Littleton)

Olivia Uyizeye (UVLSRPC Staff)

1) Welcome and Introductions

Introductions made all around.

Olivia introduces herself as the new staff member as UVLSRPC takes on staffing of the local river subcommittees.

2) Approve Meeting Minutes from April 26, 2018

Meeting minutes from April 26th, 2018 meeting were passed with two edits. The spelling of Jim Sherrard's name in the attendance list was corrected. The full name of Gal from the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust in the attendance list was added,

Bill makes a motion to approve minutes with corrections.

Jan seconds.

Vote passes unanimously.

Motion approved

3) Permit Reviews

Dredge and Fill permit application for replacement of the US Route 2 bridge over the CT River (Lancaster, NH and Guildhall, VT)

Application document for bridge replacement is circulated among attendees. Discussion of the permit and the purpose of it.

Discussion of the application's strengths and adequacies. This identifies the application's consistency with current watershed management BMPs, fitting in with rural classification, meeting of cultural resource review and consideration of the dwarf wedge muscle population.

Discussion of concerns related to the permit. This identifies the attendees concerns related to salt runoff and the height of bridge side walls.

Rick will write a letter in relation to the Route 2 bridge, including the subcommittee's questions concerning salt management and bridge side walls.

4) Election of Chairperson

Discussion of candidates and possibilities for Chair. Rick will approach members who might be interested in taking on the chair position.

Members agree to inquire their networks for potential persons to fill vacant seats, particularly from the northern towns. Reaching out through alternative means is tabled to the October meeting when need will be ascertained by the success of word of mouth strategy.

Discussion of meeting times. Subcommittee will meet at 530pm starting in October.

Jan makes a motion to change meeting time to 530pm.

Pauline seconds.

Vote passes unanimously.

Motion approved

5) Future Meeting Discussion Topics and Presentations

Discussion of the benefit of speakers during meetings, including higher attendance.

Discussion of topics of benefit identified by attendees including invasive wetland plants, the conservation plan update by the Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) and current hydro-electric dam management practices.

Rick will inquire with ACT to present at the September meeting. Olivia will inquire with Laurie Callahan for speaker suggestions for invasive aquatic plants. More ideas can be emailed to Olivia.

6) Other Business

Bill –

Discusses plans underway to repair a plank dam to highlight their historical significance.

Discusses the dam below Harvey Lake that was built in the early 1970s. Town of Barnet hired Ron Rhodes (CT River Conservancy) to evaluate the current dam's impact and potential modification. Ron has moved to have the dam removed due to backflow of tributary inputs containing manure and sediment into Harvey Lake. The suggestion is not opposed by the community, as currently known. The Town of Barney is considering replacing the current dam with another control dam.

Jan –

Asks about progress made on the repurposing of the Academy Building in Barnet. Bill answers that advocates have met with historical societies and organizations to increase support. Bill explains the initiative as an opportunity to invest in itself and put a historical building back into beneficial use for the community. It is mentioned that the CRJC used to support these types of initiatives. Pauline identifies that the CRJC can still write letters of support.

Rick –

Announces that 211 acres have been successfully placed into conservation easements and thanks the subcommittee for their letters of support.

Olivia –

Informs the attendees about a Watershed Assistance grant from NH DES and inquires as to member's interest. Concerns are raised about increasing the current workload. Questions are raised about whether the grant could support an education focused initiative. Olivia agrees to research further on the grant's potential to support education and keep the group informed as to other discussion that might take place among commissioners or other subcommittees.

7) Adjourn

Bill motions to adjourn
Jim Seconds

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Next Meeting:
October 18, 2018
Littleton Community Center
5:30PM