

Wantastiquet Subcommittee
of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions
Tuesday, December 3, 2019
Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro, VT
Minutes

Attendees

Walpole	Samantha Loch		Westminster	Paul Harlow	
Walpole			Westminster	Jim Calchera	X
Westmoreland	Perry Sawyer	X	Putney	Joe Grutta	
Westmoreland			Putney		
Chesterfield	Roland Volbehre		Dummerston	Daniel Marx	
Chesterfield			Dummerston	Jack Lilly	X
Hinsdale	Joe Conroy		Brattleboro	Kathy Urffer	X
Hinsdale			Brattleboro	Michael Fairchild	X
Vernon	Andy White		Brattleboro (alt)	Michael Donovan	
Vernon					

No Quorum Present

Margo Ghia – Windham Regional Commission (guest)

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Margo introduces herself and her role at Windham Regional Commission
2. Approve September Meeting Minutes
 - a. Perry moves to approve the notes;
 - b. Michael Fairchild seconds
 - c. Approved unanimous (not sure if we have a quorum – check based on who is here. We can redo in February if needed)
3. Permit Reviews
 - a. No permits to review
 - b. Kathy updated on Wetlands NH Rulemaking conference call with Tracie Sales
 - i. LACs are requesting to be notified of SPN and LSAs but not have to sign off on them. Signing off waives right to comment and may require a very increased workload. Also, timing of meetings does not occur quickly enough to respond to these permits. We will hear back from NH DES on final decision.
4. Chair Nomination(s) and Election
 - a. No volunteers to be chair at this time.
5. Subcommittee Priorities
 - a. Update on the Hinsdale – Brattleboro bridge
 - i. Discussion of \$12 million grant
 - ii. Short discussion of island and concerns about safety, etc. and ongoing concerns. Some thoughts that removal of existing bridges would be more beneficial to

- river and safety of community. We will continue to engage in ongoing discussion.
- b. Update on Connecticut River water quality testing
 - i. Kathy recapped the details of this pilot project. Kathy will coordinate with Ted Walsh or assistant to come do training in late March or early April. This will be a public event and we will invite other interested organizations.
6. Other Updates & Business
- a. Speaker – Scheduling for Basin Plan Update (VT) from Marie Caduto
 - i. Margo gives a short presentation on the Basin 12 Planning process and the current draft plan. There will be public meetings held on:
 - 1. Dec. 10: 6:30 to 8:00 pm at Brattleboro Savings and Loan
 - 2. And also on - Thursday, Dec. 19: 6:30 to 8:00 pm in Wilmington Town Hall
 - ii. State is about to release the draft plan for comment. Waiting for sign off from Commissioner's office before being release.
 - iii. Marie will next be working on the draft for Basin 11 (West, Williams and Saxtons Rivers). We should ask Marie to come do an update at the February meeting.
 - b. Meeting schedule – and finances
 - i. Kathy updates on conversation with CRJC Commissioners on the loss of VT funding for the CRJC, structure of contract and our decision to move to 6 meetings. The commission seems supportive of this move, although it comes at a bad time given the cut in funding.
 - c. Jack Lilly updates on Dummerston Conservation Commission – Mary Copeland and Dummerston CC are working on the preservation of the Deer Run Conserve. This is a large parcel on the West River. Information meeting on Dec 4th at 7:00 pm in Williamsville.
7. Next Meeting Location and Date
- a. Early February – send a doodle Poll to find exact date; next meeting to be in Putney
 - b. Early April (late March) plan meeting as public training with Ted Walsh. Kathy will check with him to find out if we need access to a river.
8. Adjourn
- a. Perry moves to adjourn
 - b. Michael Fairchild seconded
 - c. Voted yes.

Minutes taken by Kathy Urffer.