

CRJC Riverbend Subcommittee

Minutes

Thursday June 18th, 2020

5:30PM

Conference Call

CRJC's mission is to preserve the visual and ecological integrity and sustainable working landscape of the Connecticut River Valley, and guide its growth and development through grassroots leadership. Five local river subcommittees carry out this work with a corps of over 100 volunteers.

Attendance

Lancaster	Rob Christie	✓	Monroe	Ken Hunter		Guildhall		
Lancaster			Monroe			Guildhall		
Dalton	Michael Crosby		Bath	Rick Walling	✓	Lunenburg		
Dalton	Gal Potashnick		Bath			Lunenburg		
Littleton	Jim Sherrard		Haverhill	Pauline Corzilius	✓	Concord	Deborah Noble	
Littleton	Jan Edick	✓	Haverhill	Dale Lewis		Concord		
Waterford	William (Bill) Piper	✓	Barnet	Bill Graves		Ryegate	Mary Dole	
Waterford			Barnet	John Fairchild	✓	Ryegate		
Newbury	Scott Labun	✓						
Newbury								

Belinda Emmons (Speaker, Rabbit Run Photography)

Olivia Uyizeye (CRJC Staff)

Minutes

1. Review of Conference Call Tools and Public Meeting Guidelines

Chair Walling called the meeting, conducted via conference call, to order at 7:12 PM under the emergency provisions of RSA 91-A, New Hampshire's Right-to-Know law, as allowed by Emergency Order 11 under Executive Order 2020-04 in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Uyizeye oriented attendees to a few features on the zoom platform and how to reach her for technical assistance.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Walling conducted a roll call of LAC members, invited any guests to introduce themselves, and welcomed all present.

3. Speaker – Belinda Emmons, Wildlife Photography (Rabbit Run Photography)

Emmons shares that she grew up in Monroe and now lives in Barnet. She works at a school. Labun says she is a former student. Emmons says Corzilius and Labun were both once her teachers.

Emmons describes to members that she canoes up and down the rivers and takes taking photos all along. She recently found an eagle's nest in Monroe where Walling met her. Emmons notes that she never gets tired of seeing eagles. She has seen another nest in Lisbon. Walling adds that eagles have been there for a few years now. Emmons notes there is another in Monroe with one eaglet. Christie shares that another can be found in Lancaster over martin meadow pond where eagles have been seen for 5-10 years. Emmons shares that she has been totally blown away in such a short span of the river.

Fairchild asks what time she goes out – Emmons says around this time, evening and also early morning.

Walling asks if Emmons has seen and great blue herons yet this year as he's heard others report that they are later than usual – Emmons says she has also not seen them yet.

Emmons shares that she has created a book, *Beauty from a Canoe*, highlighting photos from her canoe trips. She is currently working on one for loons. Edick suggests adding information about how each photo was taken. Emmons shares that members can reach out to her directly if they are interested in seeing more photos, visiting her studio or purchasing her book. Uyizeye will share Emmons' contact information for those who do not have it.

Emmons has displayed her work in space on main, farm to fire in Monroe, and up at Dartmouth Hitchcock medical center for patients. She also has a gallery behind her house. Emmons says she would like to share with the group again in the future in person. Walling says that would be possible. Uyizeye will share information with Emmons about becoming a member, for her to consider.

Walling and members thank Emmons for her time.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes from December and February (No quorum in Feb)

Walling opens up the December minutes for comment. Edick makes a motion to accept the minutes. Labun seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously by roll call vote.

5. Permit Reviews

Walling indicates that there are no new permits to review at this time. Walling did sign and return a permit for a small culvert in Lancaster that required our signature.

6. Other Business

a. Water quality testing sites

Uyizeye shares a list of potential sites for water quality testing on the Connecticut River based on previously used locations by NHDES. There are nine potential sites. Walling suggests these could be done in a day. Walling notes that if 2-3 people are able to participate in a testing day it is ideal and can go pretty quickly. Uyizeye will share the potential list with members who might suggest changes.

Walling provides a list of the tests that are performed and shares that the information is made into an annual report by NHDES and used for reporting on the clean water act. There is general agreement from members in attendance to continue considering the program.

For more information on the NH water quality program -

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vrap/index.htm>

b. Strategic planning for CRJC

Uyizeye reminds members they received the approved CRJC strategic plan and provides a summary description.

7. Adjourn

Christie makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fairchild seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously by roll call vote.

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 17, 2020

5:30PM

Location TBD

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Olivia Uyizeye