



Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Monday, April 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Executive Committee – 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Minutes

*Commissioners Present: VT – Caduto; Lembke; Campany; Rasmussen.
NH – Chute, Hastings*

1:00 PM – Convene

Minutes of March 8 & 18 Meetings

March 8 minutes were reviewed. Comm. Chute requested that the sentence referencing an explosion of press releases be deleted. Comm. Lembke move to adopt the March 8 minutes with the suggested deletion. Comm. Hastings seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous.

March 18 Minutes Comm. Caduto moved to adopted the minutes as presented. Comm. Lembke seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous

Financial Update – The depletion of funds for FY 2021 was discussed. Executive Committee requested staff to calculate time over budget and anticipated needs for the remainder of the fiscal year for essential support and bring that to a tentative meeting of the executive committee on May 10. The estimated fund balance of \$18,000 could be in part allocated to cover the additional expenses and closeout the year.

Website – Problem – See Attached Memo The problems Bluehost were discussed at length. Comm. Campany moved to authorize staff time to back up and park the website temporarily until Bluehost has resolved its problems. Bluehost has a scheduled system-wide upgrade beginning April 26–30. Comm. Caduto seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous

Climate Migration Project – The status of the event planning was reviewed. Based on the projected lessening of COVID restrictions and to allow more time to see how current real estate trends evolve in response to these changes, the CRJC webinar on climate change and population migration has been postponed until fall 2021. By early October, it is hoped that a more complete picture of recent migration patterns will be available to inform our discussions. Commissioner Caduto will be thanking the students and inviting them to participate when the event is held.

June Joint Commissions and State Commissions Meetings Planning for the June meetings and elections will be on the agenda for the May 10 meeting.

Other Business – Storage Space The CRJC equipment and files currently stored at UVLSRPC were discussed and possible space alternatives at the Sullivan County facility in Unity were offered by Comm. Chute as a possible alternative. Further discussion will be on the May 10 agenda.

Comm. Lembke noted that the \$2,000 Claremont Savings Bank grant from several years earlier has been held for potential use on the climate migration project and that the NHCF funds for water quality were held separately. Staff confirmed that they were accounted for separately.

2:10 PM – Adjourn

Comm. Hastings moved to adjourn. Comm. Caduto seconded.

Link to audio file.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/16_8gl2g9IF55MfmIVaZm1pKq5N3K1iV5/view?usp=sharing

Adopted: May 10, 2021

To: Executive Committee
From: Pat Crocker
Re: Major Website Management Problems
Date: April 14, 2021

I believe you all have been aware that the website, hosted by BlueHost has been a problem that started just about this time last year and has gotten worse ever since. As you know, the CT River Byway site disappeared and the site has been intermittently either down, or we have been locked out from editing the site.

In my last note to you about this, I reported that the CRJC site was back up but that the Byway site, database was restored and the site can be viewed but it had lost all its formatting. Shortly after that the problems started again, locked out from editing to start and then on April 7 Steve Lembke alerted me that the website was routing to a Japanese website selling motorcycle parts. I have spent hours on line with BlueHost Tech support trying to resolve the problems. The last communication from them was that they had done a virus scan and saved it to one of the files on the site's c-panel. I have not gone back in to even look at that because we are at/over budget for the year and I am at wit's end trying to fix the ongoing problem.

One of the things that I cannot explain or understand is how CRJC should be responsible for an infection on this site when it resides on their servers, not ours. Then this week, BlueHost sent us a notice that leads me to conclude that this problem is not unique to our site since they are going to upgrade all their servers at the end of this month. That notice is at the end of this document.

Before any more work is put into this, here are some of the options that the UVLSRPC staff and I have to offer for consideration.

1. Try to get a hold of someone in the corporate management by telephone and see if they will agree to fix the problems (I haven't gone into the c-panel to look at the file yet to print out the record.)
2. Consider paying BlueHost additional funds to repair the problem and complete the upgrade(s).
3. Contact another webhosting firm, and see what it will take to move everything elsewhere. There will be a cost to that too, and some staff time, but continuing this way is at the point now where it begins to equal the cost of the ongoing battle with Bluehost.
4. Considering the budget, suspend the website and find another way to meet our regulatory requirements for posting meeting notices and minutes (very basic) until we have the funds to do the website properly. We can make a notice on the website saying, "For information on recent meetings and news, please see... This website is not currently being updated due to needed improvements (or technical issues)." Options for noticing in the short term. Maybe someone else can speak to which are allowed or other options:
 - CRJC Facebook page
 - NH LAC website (ask Tracie?)
 - UVLSRPC website

Below is the notice we received on April 12, 2021. Completing this work will also require time. If it's possible to recruit a Commissioner who is knowledgeable to volunteer to do any or all this work, that would be ideal.

Hi Patricia,

In an ongoing effort to bring you the very best products and services, we're excited to announce that we will be upgrading all of our servers to newer versions of PHP. In addition to improved data processing, which can boost your site's speed and performance, you'll also gain increased security. Newer versions of PHP have more frequent security updates to help protect your site against unwanted hacks or malware.

When will it happen?

At some point during the upgrade window -- April 26, 2021 through April 30, 2021 -- your account will be updated, and older versions of PHP will no longer be supported. You may experience a brief disruption in service, but we will work to upgrade your site quickly with the most updated version of PHP software your website will support.

Do I need to do anything on my end?

Yes, to avoid a negative impact to your site, **we recommend that you upgrade all of your web installations to the newest PHP software available before we move your account.**

Newer versions of PHP are already available on your current server, and you can set your site to use those versions with this helpful [guide](#). You should also backup all of your website files.

What if a newer version of PHP won't work on my site? What can I do?

If a newer version of PHP doesn't work on your site you have a number of options available to you. We've put together a few of those options [here](#).

We assure you that we will try to minimize the risk to your site. However, if you need help with these changes before they occur, we are available for you via [chat](#) or by phone at [888-401-4678](tel:888-401-4678).

Sincerely,
Your Bluehost Support Team

[Bluehost.com](https://bluehost.com) | [Contact Us](#)

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