



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.

Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Full Commissions Meeting
 Monday, June 12th, 2023 - 2 PM
 Hybrid Meeting – Kilton Library, Lebanon, NH

ATTENDANCE

NH CRVRC COMMISSIONERS			VT CRWAC COMMISSIONERS		
NCC	OPEN		Sec. Nat. Resources	Marie Caduto	P
UVLSRPC	Ted Cooley	V	NVDA	Beth Torpey	V
SWRPC	Jeffrey Miller	P	WRC	Chris Company	P
	Harriet Davenport (alt)	X		Margo Ghia (alt)	P
CRC	John Mudge	P	MARC	Jason Rasmussen	P
CRFCC	OPEN		TRORC	Pete Fellows	V
Hydro-Electric	Jen Griffin	P	RPC#5	OPEN	
Conservation	OPEN		At Large	Beth Kennett	V
Tourism	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
Agricultural	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
Forest Products	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	Jim McClammer	V	At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	
At Large	OPEN		At Large	OPEN	

Note: P = present in person; V = present over remote virtual platform; X = not present.

Additional attendance

In Person: Olivia Uyizeye, Staff Consultant.

Virtual: Hannah Dallas. Erin De Vries, Vermont River Conservancy.

AGENDA

2:00 PM Convene

1. Welcome

President Griffin starts the meeting at 2:15pm. Commissioners and guests in attendance introduce themselves.

John Mudge introduces himself as a new Commissioner from Vermont, appointed by the Connecticut River Conservancy. Hannah Dallas and Erin De Vries, also Vermont, will be joining as At Large commissioners at the September meeting, representing forestry and conservation, respectively.

2. Election of Officers

a. CRVRC break out meeting

Griffin opened the CRVRC meeting at 2:20 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to elect CRVRC officers for the 2024 fiscal year. Griffin presents the following slate of officers: Ted Cooley – Chair; Jeff Miller – Vice Chair; John Mudge – Secretary/Treasurer.

By motion of Griffin/Miller the slate (Cooley, Miller, Mudge) is approved. The motion passes unanimously.



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A discussion followed. McClammer explained that he had been unable to fully participate in CRVRC/CRJC for the past year or so due to the debilitating effects of a head injury. He feels he has recovered sufficiently to be more active in the coming year.

No other business was discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

b. CRWAC break out meeting

Campany opened the CRWAC meeting at 2:15 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to elect CRWAC officers for the 2024 fiscal year.

Caduto volunteers to serve as chair. Kennett/Rasmussen motions to include Caduto in the slate as chair. Ghia is nominated as vice-chair. Rasmussen/Kennett motions to include Ghia in the slate as vice-chair. Rasmussen is nominated as secretary/treasurer. Caduto/Ghia motions to include Rasmussen in the slate as secretary/treasurer.

By motion of Kennett/Ghia the slate (Caduto, Ghia, Rasmussen) is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

3. Election of Officers – Connecticut River Joint Commissions

Griffin proposes a slate for the Connecticut River Joint Commissions with Cooley as President, Caduto as Vice-President, Rasmussen as Treasurer, and Miller as Secretary. Griffin asks if there are any other nominations from the floor with none mentioned.

By motion by Caduto/Miller, the slate of officers for CRJC as presented by Griffin is approved. The motion passes unanimously.

4. Adopt/Review Minutes of March

Griffin opens the March meeting minutes for review. No edits.

By motion of Caduto/Campany, the minutes are approved. The motion passes unanimously.

5. Financial Report

Rasmussen reviews the notes from Anne MacEwan. The contract is running a bit under budget. No concerns are raised.

By motion of Griffin/Caduto, the financials are approved. The motion passes unanimously.

6. Continuing Assessment Plan or “CAP”

Griffin and Uyizeye facilitate a process to review the eleven goals of the FY24 CRJC CAP as drafted for the meeting. Commissioners engage in both virtual and online formats with opportunity to comment on each goal, and select three to participate in. Comments and potential teams are incorporated into a revised CAP and attached to these minutes.

No major revisions to the CAP are presented.

7. Fiscal Year 2024

a. Review/Adopt Proposed Budget and Tasks

Caduto expresses concerns for high website hosting fees especially for malware. Would like to evaluate alternative options. The comment will be added to the CAP for the goal team's consideration.

By motion of Rasmussen/Caduto, the FY24 budget is approved. The motion passes unanimously.



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b. Review Meeting Calendar

No concerns are raised regarding the proposed FY24 calendar.

c. CRJC Social & Riverwide Speaker Update

Uyizeye reviews potential locations for the CRJC social event. Caduto suggests a dairy farm used for a recent gathering in Fairlee Vermont. General agreement to keep to a Saturday time.

8. LRS Update

a. Quarterly Report & Water Quality Monitoring Program

Uyizeye provides a recaps of the quarterly report including the water quality monitoring program. The report is attached to these minutes.

b. New Member Approval

New local river subcommittee nominations are presented. This includes Jennifer Caron, Stratford, NH Headwaters LRS; Sally Wilson, Ryegate, VT, Riverbend LRS; Justin Bradshaw, Monroe, NH, Riverbend LRS; Ted Unkles, Bradford, VT, Upper Valley LRS; Dan Nelson, Hartland, VT, Mount Ascutney LRS; and Heidi Henkel, Putney, VT, Wantastiquet LRS.

By motion of Griffin/ Rasmussen, the nominated members are approved. The motion passes unanimously.

9. Updates and Other Business

a. Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival May 7, 2023

Miller, who represented CRJC at the festival for half the day along with Steve Lembke, reports that many people attended of all age groups, approximately 1,700 people. A great event. A lot of family. Great location and well run. Some people visited the CRJC table even though no gifts were available. Able to recruit a couple of people. Well worth CRJC's time to continue this type of effort. Some kind of pamphlet or something for people to take. A backdrop would be eye-catching. A tri-fold that was previously used and now lost was helpful. Griffin indicates she may have a picture to recreate.

b. Hydro-relicensing

Griffin reports. Comments are in for the First light relicensing so that will be moving forward in the FERC process along with the Great River Hydro facilities. A new kind of runner that is fish friendly has been added to the proposal and updated June 13th. Now the applications are ready for environmental analysis. Starts the clock to progress towards the final license in approximately a year's time.

c. Connecticut River Watershed Partnership Act (Friends of Conte)

Company reports that the acts is not moving very fast through congress. While waiting, an effort by USFWS has started to form a larger group to detail what a watershed resilience entity might look like. Consideration for Friends of Conte to play this role, as they already have many relationships across the watershed. Another similar, but not as expansive group, is the Connecticut River Salmon Council. Company indicates that he is advocating for municipal/regional/county understanding for limited capacity on land conservation issues generally because of the ways that funding is distributed. CRJC could appoint someone directly to the Friends of Conte group, which would not be a heavy lift.



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d. Other Business

Caduto thanks Uyizeye for her work and gives a gift (hanging glass of NH/VT) on behalf of CRJC to remember the area as she starts to work full time remote from a new location this summer.

4:00 PM Adjourn

Griffin thanks everyone for attending.

By motion of Hastings/Campany the meeting is adjourned. The motion passes unanimously.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.