

CRJC Headwaters Subcommittee

Minutes

Thursday, May 23, 2024 - 7:00PM

In Person Meeting – Town Hall, Colebrook, NH

Attendees

Pittsburg			Northumberland	Edwin Mellett	X
Pittsburg			Northumberland	Dale Covey	X
Colebrook	Kevin McKinnon	P	Bloomfield		
Colebrook			Bloomfield		
Stratford			Lemington		
Stratford	Jennifer Caron	V	Lemington		
Clarksville			Maidstone		
Clarksville			Maidstone		
Stewartstown			Canaan	Tom Caron	P
Stewartstown			Canaan		
Columbia			Brunswick		
Columbia			Brunswick		

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

Virtual: Olivia Uyizeye (Staff, UVLSRPC)

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair McKinnon called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

2. Meeting Minutes from December

Caron moves to accept the December minutes. McKinnon seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

3. Permit Reviews and Communications

a. Town of Stratford ([2024-00552](#), Shoreland, Comments Due 3/29)

Construction of a wide gravel walking path, observation areas, a playground and reconstruction of a pickleball court.

McKinnon summarizes the project and indicates that he visited the site. It is not right on the riverbank and the project is largely to convert an existing use to an alternative use.

b. GRH (#24-171, Herbicide Special Permit, Comments Due 5/17)

At the dams of First and Second Connecticut River Lakes and the boat launches.

c. NH State (#24-195, Herbicide Special Permit, Comments Due 5/28)

Largely further from the river, thus not of major concern.

d. 3262 N Main St, Pittsburg, NH ([2024-01239](#), Shoreland, Comments Due 5/31)

The owner proposes adding a 20'x28' (560sf) addition to their existing dwelling. In addition, they propose to construct a new 30'x40' (1,200sf) garage on their 1.34 acre lot. Also, an additional 238 sq. ft. of new driveway.

Caron and McKinnon review the site details. They identify the buffer zone, and do not see anything of concern. Caron notes that the site is pretty close to the lake.

4. Updates & Other Business

a. Update. Canaan Dam – FERC Environmental and Recreational Compliance Report

https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_num=20240425-5052

Canaan Hydro dam will be approximately six (6) feet below normal from July 22, 2024, through July 26, 2024, in order to conduct concrete repairs. Bypass flows will be maintained during this timeframe. Water levels will be restored to normal upon completion of the work.

b. Update. Twin States Clean Energy Link.

<https://www.poweradvisoryllc.com/reports/national-grid-no-longer-pursuing-the-twin-states-clean-energy-link>

The project has been canceled.

c. Ongoing. Wild & Scenic designation for the Nulhegan River.

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, in an open business session on September 21, 2023, by a voice vote of a quorum present, recommends that the Senate pass S. 432.

d. Town/Member updates

i. Connecticut Lakes Stakeholder Meeting – Murphy Dam

Caron reports on the meeting. NHDES will not be doing anything at Murphy dam this year, perhaps 2025 when they will be replacing the valves, part of the penstock. Members will want to impress upon the dam safety as the work will be done over a couple of months, especially during the high recreational season of July and August. Next meeting is likely to be in Fall 2024 which expects to include presentation on a timeline for this work for 2025. It could potentially start as early as April, because the water will be cold enough to not hurt the trout, which is a major concern.

McKinnon notes that during high water, there was a farmer spreading fertilizer.

5. Adjourn

Caron moves to adjourn. McKinnon seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Uyizeye.