



## UPPER VALLEY RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE Minutes -September 15, 2009

PRESENT: David Minsk, Caryl Collier, Hanover; Lynn Bohi, Linda Wilson, Hartford; Marc White, Orford; Linda Matteson, Thetford; David Jorgensen, Joan Monroe, Lebanon; Mary Daly, Fairlee; Charles Grant, Piermont; Genevieve Morinville, Norwich, Nicole Cormen, Lebanon City Council; Adair Mulligan, CRJC

ABSENT: members from Lyme, Bradford

1. Welcomed new member Genevieve Morinville of Norwich.
2. Permit Issues
  - a. Orford application: riverside residential development in Orford village - Marc and Carl Schmidt had made site visit and talked with landowner, who stopped work as soon as he learned his permit had not been issued. Probable lack of communication and misinformed consultant. Project is not within floodplain and a good riparian buffer exists. DES has threatened punitive action; members agreed to write letter noting that landowner wants to comply with the law and that project should go ahead. Marc also reported on a proposed project to greatly increase the size of two non-conforming buildings on the river, on which the Orford ZBA has not yet ruled but stated no hardship seemed to exist to warrant a variance.
  - b. Economic stimulus-funded projects: Hanover - ARRA funds will be used to upgrade aeration blowers at wastewater treatment plant and Girl Brook Pump Station; all work to be done inside buildings - no objection. Lebanon - replace older meters throughout city - no objection
  - c. New procedure for communicating with NH DES about NH permit applications - CRJC will be kept more closely informed of applications involving more DES programs.
  - d. Proposed NH rule changes for stream crossings and upcoming public meetings- new rules focus on designing culverts and bridges for better fish passage, stream stability, and passage of stormwater, as also recommended by the Subcommittee's plan.
  - e. Update on plans for rowing facility development at Fullington Farm, Hanover - town held very well attended meeting the previous night and has not yet decided whether to support the project. Caryl said that the proposed 180' dock would be 75-80 feet from shore with nine coach boats moored behind it. She advised looking again at the project in the future for physical effects, aesthetics, effects on the shoreline, and also at what is the best use for Wilson's Landing.
3. Housekeeping
  - a. Election of officers - deferred to next meeting
  - b. Staff changes at CRJC - Brenda Ash, Business & Office Manager
  - c. Minutes of the meetings of March 23 and July 22 approved
  - d. Water Resources Plan will be published in color very soon, with ARRA funds.
  - e. Connecticut River Atlas now available: 30% discount extended to Subcommittee members.
  - f. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has accepted the Subcommittee's Connecticut River Recreation Management and Water Resources Plans as comprehensive plans for the river
4. EPA Tri-State Watershed Initiative - 2009 water quality findings showed only 2-3 bacteria violations all summer, in stark contrast to Massachusetts, where violations were routine. Website is [www.cesd.umass.edu/twi/index.html](http://www.cesd.umass.edu/twi/index.html)
5. Mascoma River nomination - Joan distributed flyer and reported on progress in building support for nomination in the four river towns. Lebanon City Council will consider shortly. Field trip planned to headwaters at Cummins Pond in Dorchester on Sept. 26, set up by CRJC. Nicole advised building public support by inviting neighbors on such field trips.
6. The New Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan for the Upper Valley- Public presentation by Adair after introducing subcommittee members.