



UPPER VALLEY RIVER SUBCOMMITTEE
Minutes -November 23, 2009

PRESENT: Charles Grant, Piermont; Nancy Jones, Bradford; Caryl Collier, Hanover; Carl Schmidt and Marc White, Orford; Linda Matteson, Thetford; Commissioner Hank Swan, Adair Mulligan, CRJC
ABSENT: Fairlee, Hartford, Lyme, Lebanon
PUBLIC: Ben Machin, Corinth

1. Housekeeping: Minutes of the meeting of September 15 were accepted; minutes are being posted on CRJC website. Election of officers deferred to next meeting. Annual reports have been sent to towns. Councilor Ray Burton and CRJC hosted a tour for Governors Lynch and Douglas of both sides of the river valley from Lancaster to Colebrook on October 7, to highlight scenic aspects and tourism based on natural resources. Legislators from both states, some executive councilors, and media participated. CRJC gave presentation at DES Water & Watershed Conference, Nov. 21 and will present to the ILEAD program at Dartmouth in January.
2. Water Resources Plan distribution: plan has been published with economic stimulus funding through NH. Adair distributed copies to members and to bring to their planning boards/commissions and conservation commissions. CRJC is fund-raising to be able to provide copies to libraries and schools. A CD containing the Recreation and Water Resources plans, both the overviews and the Upper Valley versions, and the powerpoint presentation, was given to each subcommittee member.
3. Permit Issues
 - a. Exit 20 reconstruction project, Lebanon: asphalt piles and invasives are being removed at Two Rivers Park
 - b. Dartmouth has consulted DES about an erosion problem at the Rivercrest site and will reroute stormwater until spring when a permanent solution will be sought.
 - c. Act 250 application for Hartford wastewater treatment facility to be upgraded. Archeological materials have been found at the site, at the confluence of the White and Connecticut Rivers. Should comment that this is an opportunity to expand riparian buffers where possible.
 - d. Rowing facility development at Fullington Farm & Wilson's Landing, Hanover: Caryl reported on the project and expressed her opinion that while the proposed use of the barn for boat storage and the farmhouse for a clubhouse are a good idea, the proposed 180' dock was too large, and a 60 foot dock would be much better. She also reported that 120 to 130 people would be walking from the house to the dock each day, that 7 to 9 motorboats would be permanently docked there and that the gradually sloping mudflats will require that the dock be out in the river 75 - 80 feet. Dartmouth's communications about its willingness to allow rowing to continue at its dock have been confusing to the community. Should contact Peter Glenshaw, the college's community relations officer. When the rowing club files its permit application, the subcommittee will have another chance to comment.
4. EPA Tri-State Watershed Initiative and water quality monitoring - A group of volunteers sampled the river between Wilder, Lebanon, Cornish, and Weathersfield in 2008 and 2009. This area had very few bacteria violations, in stark contrast to Massachusetts, where violations were routine. Website is www.cesd.umass.edu/twi/index.html.
5. Mascoma River nomination - this is moving forward; the group sponsoring the nomination has begun to settle on segment designations.
6. The New Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan for the Upper Valley- Public presentation by Adair to an audience of approximately 70, hosted by the Orford Conservation Commission. The presentation is available on CD for any members who wish to give it to a group in their own communities.