



RIVERBEND SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes - June 11, 2009

PRESENT: Rick Walling, Bath; Bill Graves, Barnet; PJ Blanchard, Monroe; Scott Labun, Newbury; Bob Elwell, Lancaster; Jan Edick, Littleton; Adair Mulligan, CRJC;

ABSENT: Guildhall, Ryegate, Waterford, Lunenburg, Concord, Dalton

GUESTS: Pete Poulsen, former chair, Littleton; Charlie Ryan, Ammonoosuc River Local Advisory Committee

1. Housekeeping: Vote on minutes of the meeting of March 26 deferred to next meeting. Water Resources Plan is now in publication, thanks to grant from Vermont. Members commented that Vermont has not earned its "green" image when it comes to river stewardship, and was well behind New Hampshire. Bill said that there is much shoreland development occurring on the Comerford Reservoir that could not occur on the NH side. Scott asked about Scenic Byway grants. Adair will send out contact info for the state transportation department staff handling these, and said that potential grantees should contact Sharon Francis at CRJC to get on the Scenic Byway Council agenda to seek support for their projects.
2. Mining: Rick reported that gold mining on the Wild Ammonoosuc River has become an enforcement problem. Pete said that some mining rights are owned by Canadians and those involved include professional engineers in addition to hobbyists. It was agreed that DES support is needed with this issue.
3. Permit Issues - Scott, Rick, and Bill reported seeing heavy terrain alteration at North Haverhill very close to the river, where the campground is being put in. Adair will notify DES and ask for a site inspection.
4. Ammonoosuc River project: Public meeting will take place on June 22 to explain CRJC's geomorphic assessment, floodplain conservation, and riverbank restoration project on the Ammonoosuc River, in cooperation with the Local Advisory Committee, Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust and North Country Council.
5. Reports from the tributaries: Ammonoosuc Local Advisory Committee - Rick announced that the designation of the headwaters passed with an amendment. Bill reported that Ben Copans is finishing up some trails in the Wells River watershed, and that Bill's concern remains regarding the state's lack of followup on washout of an un-permitted dam.
6. Public presentation: Adair Mulligan gave a presentation on the new Connecticut River Water Resources Management Plan for the Riverbend Region, which Jan videotaped for future airing on community access TV. Members offered helpful feedback. The presentation will be given at least twice more in the fall.