Meeting Minutes—April 15, 2013

Members Present: Marc White, David Kotz, Lynn Bohi, Linda Matteson, Sue MacKenzie, Bill Bridge, John Mudge, Carl Schmidt, Larry Gatto and Rachel Ruppel, staff consultant

Approval of Feb. 25 2013 minutes was moved by John, with a second by Sue – motion passed.

Rachel reported that CRJC would like to know UVRSC’s goals and priorities and to prepare a workplan for next year reflecting those goals and priorities. The group discussed that the dam relicensing was the priority, in addition to routine permit application reviews and ongoing landowner education and outreach. They discussed that the dam relicensing provides an opportunity to identify gaps in canoe/kayak access and river campsites, as well as provide information to landowners. They would like to write to state representatives and town officials about the dam relicensing and concerns over bank erosion and share John’s study request with them. For the next year’s workplan, the members asked Rachel to draft a proposal that includes administrative support for the UVRSC’s meetings as well as for UVRSC’s involvement with dam relicensing.

Rachel noted that a training workshop will be held on April 27, 2013 in Concord for all local river advisory committees. She will be attending and will share information back to the group.

The members reviewed the Twin State Sand and Gravel wetlands permit— the business plans to withdraw water from the river, but given the volume of the river, this withdrawal would have very little impact. Linda noted that the business plans to expand, which would trigger Act 250 review.

Rachel described that CRJC plans to print the 2008 Recreation Plans, but would like to have a 1-2 page summary of progress since the plans were adopted. Marc suggested that the summary include specific recommendations that are priorities to address. Rachel will circulate the draft and the members agreed to review the drafts and report back by May 13, otherwise the group will have to meet on May 20 to review.

The members discussed a summer educational workshop at John Mudge’s family property. The focus of the program is on the erosion problem, mitigation, and dam relicensing process—invitees would be state legislators and town officials (Selectmen and Conservation Commissions). The date will be Monday June 24th from 4-6 pm, to be held rain or shine.

The next meeting will be held on June 17, 2013 at the Thetford Library, unless a meeting needs to be held on May 20 to review the Recreation Plan update.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Ruppel, staff consultant