Meeting Minutes — June 16, 2014

Members Present: Jim Kennedy, Sue Mackenzie, Linda Matteson, Lynn Bohi, Melissa Horwitz, Carl Schmidt and Rachel Ruppel, staff consultant.

Minutes: Meeting minutes from April 2014 were approved (motion by Sue, second by Lynn).

Upcoming speakers: Shane Csiki, NHDES fluvial geomorphologist, did a site visit this spring to view Lyme’s road/riverbank erosion. Jim suggested that he’d like to do a boat tour of erosion sites this summer — what’s worked to stabilize slopes and what hasn’t; he will pursue this idea.

CRJC Update: The group bid farewell to staff consultant Rachel Ruppel who is moving to Oregon. A new person will staff the Subcommittee moving forward, and CRJC approved a budget with the same level of staffing support for Subcommittees for this coming fiscal year (July-June).

Roundtable: The new VT shoreland law protecting lake shorefronts will take effect shortly. The Lyme site visit went well with Shane Csiki; they are waiting on Shane’s written report. Orford Conservation Commission is releasing 1,000 beetles to control purple loosestrife on 6/17/2014 at the mouth of Jacobs Brook. Hanover Conservation Commission hosted a meeting at Wilson’s Landing to discuss ideas for improving this park/river access — it is well-used particularly by rowing clubs/teams but doesn’t offer much in the way of amenities, such as shade, parking or places to sit. A second meeting will be held July 9th.

Permit Review: Orford Helical Stairway/Boat Launch: The Subcommittee reviewed and approved draft comment letters based on Jim, Carl and Rachel’s review of the application. Top concerns were bank stabilization, extent of clearing, seasonal dock removal and ensuring that shoreland standards were met. Also discussed was the loss of prime ag land to residential development.

Quechee Lakes discharge permit renewal: Mt. Ascutney Subcommittee reviewed this permit as it is downstream from Quechee Lakes and suggested that routine water quality monitoring should be done. Lynn will bring up this issue at Ottauquechee Natural Resources Conservation District meeting tomorrow.

The next meeting will be held on August 18, 2014, at 7 pm at the Thetford Library. (May be a field trip!)