



## **Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Committee Minutes**

***March 2, 2016***

***7 pm to 9 pm***

***WPWA Campus, 203 Arcadia Road, Hope Valley, RI 02832***

Call to Order at 7:00 pm

In Attendance: James Cole, Bruce Loeckler, Maureen Kennelly, Madeline Jeffery, Richard Seager, Dennis Migneault, Carol Ann Baker, James Leigh, Oren Cooke, Christopher Grube, Louis Sposato, Jay Aron, Eric Thomas, Dave Prescott, Rachel Calabro, Joe MacAndrew, Jamie Fosburgh, Denise Poyer

Approval of Minutes from 28 Jan 2016 meeting

Unanimously approved.

Financial Report

No expenditures to date.

Old Business

1. Committee members' expertise and interest
  - a. Chart was created. It will be sent out to all the committee members to be updated as appropriate.
2. Subcommittee Structure
  - a. Example of Taunton Wild and Scenic Rivers was presented. They had two subcommittees: Education/ Outreach and Natural Resources. In addition they had Stream Teams for each tributary, in effect they were Tributary Subcommittees
  - b. Jamie, Eric, and Rachel will research more materials from previous subcommittees to present at the next meeting.
  - c. Outreach/Education Subcommittee was formed with Dick Seager as the subcommittee chair.
  - d. This issue will be carried over for continued discussion at the next meeting.
3. Inviting new subcommittee members
  - a. Denise has started a list of people and organizations with specific skills that may be useful to the subcommittees. She will send the list to the committee for any additional suggestions.

- b. It was agreed by the committee that new members to the full committee, i.e. with voting rights, will be from the watershed towns only. However, individuals and organizations may be invited to join or contribute to the subcommittees as deemed appropriate.
  - c. New subcommittee members will not be invited until the subcommittees have been formed.
  - d. Invitation of experts from RI Department of Environmental Management will go through Jay Aron, who is the liaison for the Department.
- 4. Website content and design
  - a. The consensus of the committee was that it was important to have a website devoted to the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Wild and Scenic Study process. Richard Seager volunteered his expertise in graphic design to assist in development of the website.
- 5. Status of revising NPS contract with WPWA
  - a. NPS is able to fund \$44,000 so far for this fiscal year. Jamie was able to pro-rate the approved budget to reflect this new amount.
  - b. WPWA has signed a Cooperative Agreement with NPS for this current fiscal year. WPWA should be able to draw down funds shortly.
  - c. Moved to last item
- 6. Potential new river segments to add to the study
  - a. The consensus of the committee was to add the Shunnock and Green Falls Rivers in CT to the list of rivers to be studied. Eric will check with resource experts at CTDEEP to supply the potential ORV's.
- 7. Scope of rivers to be studied
  - a. Denise presented the list of rivers, including the new CT rivers, with their potential ORV's. Consensus by the committee that these were rivers that they will study. The committee will take up the discussion of each segment at a later date.

#### New Business

- 1. Adding items to the agenda
  - a. Any committee member may add an agenda item.
  - b. New agenda items must be sent to Denise at least 7 days before the next meeting.
  - c. The committee may decide at a later time to put a time limit on discussion of agenda items
- 2. Approving subcontractors
  - a. The appropriate subcommittees may approve subcontractors in conjunction with WPWA recommendations.

- b. There should be a competitive bid process of at least 2 bids if the expenditure amount will be over \$2500. However, if there are compelling circumstances this will be waived.
  3. Outreach materials
    - a. Suggestions for outreach media by the committee included
      - i. Website
      - ii. Video
      - iii. Printed materials and brochures
      - iv. Social media
    - b. An Outreach and Education subcommittee was started. Members will include:
      - i. Richard Seager (Chair)
      - ii. Tracy Hanson
      - iii. David Prescott
    - c. Other members will be added.
    - d. Jamie suggested that a good starting point is to check the VT Missisquoi and Trout Wild and Scenic Rivers website at [www.vtwsr.org](http://www.vtwsr.org). They were just approved for inclusion by congress but the website still contains the outreach materials they used as a study committee

#### Schedule Next Meeting

Denise will send out a Meeting Wizard email to schedule the next meeting, most likely for the middle or end of April.

#### New Business to be added to the next agenda:

1. GIS Mapping
2. Text regarding the Wild and Scenic Study for Comprehensive Plan input for RI Towns and Plan of Conservation and Development for CT Towns.
3. Presentation of the Watershed

#### Adjourn at 8:24 pm

#### Action Items

Denise

- Make name placards for each committee member
- Send out chart of member's interest and expertise to be updated
- Send out expertise list for more suggestions
- Create Virtual Watershed Tour

Eric, Rachel and Jamie

- Subcommittee materials from previous Wild and Scenic River studies
- Poll resource experts at CTDEEP for potential ORV's for the Green Falls and Shunnock Rivers

Rachel

- Subcommittee materials from previous Wild and Scenic River studies

Jamie

- Subcommittee materials from previous Wild and Scenic River studies

Richard

- Approve contracts for web designer and videographer