



Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Committee Minutes

August 29, 2016

7 pm to 9 pm

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

Call to Order at 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Carol Ann Baker, Rachel Calabro, Roger Gibson, Christopher Grube, Sean Henry, Madeline Jeffery, Maureen Kennelly, Meg Kerr, James Leigh, Bruce Loeckler, Joe MacAndrew, Dennis Migneault, Denise Poyer, Dave Prescott, Louis Sposato, Denise Stetson, Fredrick Wagner

Presentation: Jeffery Emmidy, RI Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, presented on important historical features in the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed. A video of the presentation and a copy of the PowerPoint slides will be posted on the website. Mr. Emmidy stated that his Commission has PDF files of historical sites for every city/town in Westerly. These files would be of value to Committee when developing the final study report.

Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2016 meeting

Unanimously approved.

Financial Report

1. Denise reported on expenditures to date and provided a spreadsheet. \$21,814.55 of the \$56,000 budget for FY16 has been expended, including \$574 for video equipment.
2. Jamie Fosburg explained that unexpended funds at the end of the fiscal year can be rolled over into the next year. In fact, he suggested that it would be a good idea to plan to have some funds left over in case there is a delay in approving the federal budget for the next fiscal year.

Subcommittee Reports

1. The Outreach Subcommittee report
 - a. Have approved stationary, envelopes and business cards. They will be ordered through PrintSource of Wakefield, RI.
 - b. Work is being done on a rack card design. A draft was presented to the committee. Comments and recommendations were:
 - i. Wood-Pawcatuck logo is not featured – should be on top
 - ii. Print on back is difficult to read on blue
 - iii. Map on back looks like a big blob

- iv. Feature just rivers and get rid of tributaries
- v. Drop roads
- vi. Keep town names
- vii. Lighten up boundaries
- viii. Eliminate picture on back and expand type
- ix. Website more prominent
- x. NPS and National Wild and Scenic System Logos on back
- xi. QRCode
- xii. Full page photo on front
- xiii. Place kayak and fly rod in photo
- c. Subcommittee will incorporate as many comments as possible and send out final draft version to committee before next meeting.

Old Business

1. Denise sent letters to all the town planners in CT regarding incorporating language concerning Wild and Scenic into the towns' plan of conservation and development.
2. List of potential ORV's
 - Approved Groupings
 - a. Cultural
 - i. Archeology
 - ii. Historic
 - iii. Paleontological
 - iv. Native Americans
 - v. Industrial Period
 - vi. Other cultural
 - b. Habitat
 - i. Botanical
 - ii. Fisheries/Fish
 - iii. Exceptional ecosystems
 - iv. Ornithology
 - v. Unique Species
 - vi. Wildlife Related
 - c. Watershed Resources
 - i. Geology
 - ii. Hydrology
 - iii. Agricultural
 - iv. Water Quality
 - d. Recreation
 - i. Canoe/kayaking/boating
 - ii. Fishing/crabbing
 - iii. Birding
 - iv. Hiking
 - v. Camping
 - e. Scenic

New Business

1. Definition of Wild, Scenic and Recreation categories for river designation was tabled until next meeting when Jamie Fosburg would be available to answer questions.
2. Adding Water Quality to the study - Joe MacAndrews had suggested that if we needed to expend funds before the end of the fiscal year we could use them to supplement the water quality monitoring budget for WPWA. However, because funds can be rolled over into the next fiscal budget this was decided to be unnecessary.
3. Replacement of vice chair will be voted on at the next meeting.
4. Denise will send another letter to the Exeter Town Council to assign a committee member to represent their town. She will also send out a press release about the study committee looking for more members from specific towns.
5. River maps – WPWA is would like to create 4 maps of the Pawcatuck River that show paddle routes and have information about the Wild and Scenic Study. These maps would be available on-line and could be printed and distributed at events to promote Wild and Scenic.
Motion made and seconded to approve using no more than \$2000 to create the 4 on line maps. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Added item: Fred Wagner asked if the author of a book, the Pawcatuck River Navy, who is a member of the Westerly Historical Society, could be asked to come and speak to the committee. It was decided that at this point we will have had enough historical speakers. The suggestion was made that he could be asked to serve on the Cultural subcommittee. Compensation would not be discussed.

Schedule Next Meeting

1. Next meeting will be at the end of Sept.
2. Presentation from CT Historical Society.

Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

New Business

Definition of Wild, Scenic and Recreation categories
Election of Vice Chair
Discussion of requisition of funds from NPS for FY17
Forming Cultural committee

Action items:

Make Name Card for Fred
Send out final version of ORV's
Send out letter to Exeter Town Council
Send out press release looking for more members