

**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed  
Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council  
Minutes  
November 18, 2020, 6 pm to 8 pm**

In Attendance: Exeter: Nan Quinlan; Hopkinton: Elaine Caldarone; North Kingstown: Jim LeBlanc; North Stonington: Dick Seager, Madeline Jeffery; Richmond: Antonia Bryson, Pete August; South Kingstown: Dennis Migneault, Bill McCusker; Sterling: Roger Gibson; West Greenwich: Chris Grube, Pat Lardner; Westerly: Jon Ericson, Lauren Barber; National Park Service: Jamie Fosburgh; CT DEEP, Eric Thomas; Save the Bay: Dave Prescott; Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association, Brett Still

Guests: Lauren Bonatakis, new NPS associate  
Sara Baker Bailey, Stonington alternate rep (to be confirmed)

Quorum met.

Call to Order: 6:04

Secretary's Report: Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2020 meeting. Motion to accept by Nan, second by Antonia. Motion approved.

Financial Report: Approval of the Monthly Financial Report. Motion to accept by Chris G., second by Madeline. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

1. Bylaws - *Entertain a motion to adopt Bylaw Revisions; MoU Update*
  - a. Antonia has concerns of the wording of the insurance coverage. WPWA is covered by the policy, not W&S. With a bit explanation, her concerns were resolved. There is general interest in getting a copy of the insurance policy from WPWA. Need to explore the extent of our coverage. NPS funds can be used to carry additional insurance.
  - b. Motion to adopt by-laws change by Chris, second by Dennis. Motion approved. Madeline abstains.
  - c. Jon reviews draft MOU between WPWA and Wild and Scenic. Kassi provided a template for format. Jamie asks if it is wise to include specific projects and amounts. MOU should be timeless. Eric concurs. Projects and costs will already be documented in the annual workplan and budget request to NPS. Jon asked Council members to comment on the draft MoU by Dec 01 at which time the Bylaws Committee will revise again for further review. Jon will send out a Word copy of the draft MoU for members.
2. Executive - *Communication Strategy*
  - a. Jon described the need to develop a communication strategy and asked the I&E committee to do so.
  - b. Dennis reported the I&E Committee felt a subcommittee to develop a Communications Strategy would be a good idea. Volunteers for the committee should contact Dennis if they want to join. Sara Baker-Bailey will be a great addition.
3. Advisory - *Update on Beaver River Restoration and Land Protection Assessment*
  - a. Chris reports committee is down to two members. Working on getting documents together. Would like a list of parcels > 10 acres.

- b. Antonia on Beaver River solar project review. Conservation Commission has hired a consultant to do a baseline conditions of Beaver River watershed. Draft report due in December. Will get a copy for W&S review.
- 4. Projects- *Update on Prioritization of Projects, December Workshop?*
  - a. Nan reports on project committee recommendations
  - b. 13 projects selected out of 56, 4 large projects on wish list
  - c. Will need strong participation and volunteer to get the work done
  - d. By Friday, Projects committee will circulate a list of the 13 top projects and the criteria used to make choices
  - e. All ideas on the list will be reviewed and vetted. None are deleted or declined
  - f. Nan shows projects spreadsheet committee is working on
  - g. Nan reviewed projects the committee found high priority
  - h. Committee did a huge amount of work on the list of projects
  - i. Possible workshop in December to discuss projects. Tuesday 8 December, 6:00 PM
  - j. Purpose of December workshop is to go over the projects. General agreement this would be good use of time
  - k. Elaine asks Town reps for possible town-specific projects
  - l. Nan was congratulated on Sherry Award from URI CE
- 5. Information & Education - *Update on Signage; DEM Press Release; Dragonfly Express*
  - a. Dennis reports on the work of the committee
  - b. Get hat orders in
  - c. Want town reps to get signs on town crossing roads

#### Old Business

- 1. None offered

#### New Business

- 1. Budget Line Item Approval of ...
  - a. No items presented
- 2. Town Updates
  - a. *Kayak Trail Discussions*
    - i. Jon described discussions over the 3-town kayak trail in the Lower Pawcatuck. Brought in town reps and some member. Many local citizens will join conversation. December 2 meeting of all stakeholders. Early in discussions.

#### Good of the Order

- 1. *Gift & Card*
  - a. Will coordinate with Nan. Will send Kassie a hat
  - b. Get well card for Fred. Jon will take care of it

#### Action Items

- 1. Monthly or when applicable, email Jon potential agenda topics by 15th of the month, or revise draft agenda in google.docs, including relevant town/community updates.

Motion to adjourn 8:00 PM, Pete, Brett 2nd

Next Meeting: No Council meeting in December. Next Council meeting Fourth Wednesday of each month at 6pm. Date is January 27, 2021.



