

**The Franklin Watershed Committee
Minutes of Annual Meeting
August 13, 2009**

Participants: Jim Cameron, Guy Breault, Heidi Britch-Valenta, Cynthia Forsyth, Sue Clark, Carolyn Rhodes, Ruth Ann Krayesky, Helen Dever, Julie Moore (In Part), Paul Stanley, Larry Myott, Dan Larivee, Lucille Rainville, Howard Rhodes, David Breed, Dick Benton, Robert Hutchins, Peter Benevento

The meeting took place in the Felco Room of the Franklin Homestead, Franklin, VT. The meeting commenced at 7:10PM. The following transpired.

1. **Julie Moore:** Julie Moore of the Clean & Clear Program gave a presentation on the type and amount of monetary grants available through the Clean & Clear Program. The grant RFP will be released on August 24, 2009 and all grant proposals will be due by the end of Sept. 2009. Grant proposals must include a description of the project, project schedule, a budget, maps and photos. Multiple project requests may be submitted. The maximum amount per request is \$75,000.00 however the average amount awarded is \$35,000.00. No matching funds are required. Grant proposals must lead to the implementation of a capital project which should have a life expectancy of 10-15 years. Equipment is capital eligible. Pre-qualified contractors may be provided by the State to complete projects or the FWC may select its own contractor subject to State approval.
2. **Membership Forms:** Jim Cameron reviewed the membership forms and stressed their importance. He encouraged all participants to complete one if they had not already done so.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** Sue Clark reviewed the 2008 Annual Treasurer's Report. Larry Myott made a motion to accept the 2008 Treasurer's Report. Dick Benton seconded the motion. The motion was carried. Sue then gave a monthly Treasurer's Report stating that the balances in the money market and regular checking account were \$39.55 and \$3,115.92 respectively. After reimbursements the checking account will have a balance of \$5,001.18. Sue also stated that to date a total of \$19,986.20 in Sec. 319 Grant Funds had been spent. Peter Benevento made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Dick Benton seconded the motion. The motion was carried.
4. **Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting were reviewed. Larry Myott made a motion to accept the minutes. Dan Larivee seconded the motion. The motion was carried.
5. **Election of Directors:** The annual election of Directors took place. Larry Myott, Chair of the Nominating Comm. placed the following candidates in nomination giving a brief biography on each: David Lucey (1 year term), Jim Cameron (3 year term), James Mullen (3 year term) and Sue Clark (3 year term). Jim Cameron asked for any additional nominations from the floor. None were offered. All nominees were elected as Directors for the terms indicated.
6. **Donation:** A discussion was held regarding an annual donation to the Franklin Homestead in consideration for the meeting venue provided. Peter Benevento made a motion that the FWC donate \$200.00 to the Franklin Homestead. Dan Larivee seconded the motion. The motion was carried.
7. **Americorp:** Peter Benevento gave an update on the Americorp Volunteer initiative. He stated that a draft application for a volunteer to act as a Watershed Technician had been completed and reviewed. A final application will be completed by the next monthly meeting.
8. **Flex Incentive Program:** Paul Stanley gave an update on the Flex Incentive Program with the Lothian Farm. Paul stated that the Lothians qualified for the Stewardship Program and that the P-level on their farm was lower.
9. **Water Sampling:** Peter Benevento gave an update on the Water Sampling Program giving a brief description of the tributaries being sampled this year.
10. **501(c)(3) Status:** Jim Cameron informed the group that he had received a letter from the IRS stating that the FWC had been approved as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Jim also stated that the FWC was approved to receive \$45,000.00 in Sec. 319 Grant funds this coming year.
11. **Progress Report:** FWC Coordinator Heidi Britch-Valenta gave a nine month progress report on this year's Sec. 319 Grant Action Items. A listing of the Action Items accomplished is attached to the minutes.
12. **By-laws:** Jim Cameron initiated a discussion of the FWC by-laws. Specifically the issue of who is eligible to vote on motions raised at FWC monthly meetings was discussed. Presently Directors are the only

individuals eligible to vote at FWC monthly meetings. After a brief discussion it was determined that the matter would be further reviewed at subsequent meetings.

13. **Adjournment:** Larry Myott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Helen Dever seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Peter Benevento, Secretary