

The Franklin Watershed Committee
Board of Directors Meeting
Franklin Homestead
March 10, 2010

Participants: Jim Cameron, Heidi Valenta, David Breed, Sue Clark, Dan Larivee, Leonard Lampman, Paul Stanley, Jeff Teitelbaum, Tim Camissa, Keith Friend, Peter Magnant, Lucille Rainville, Ron Paradis,

The meeting commenced at 7:00pm

Approval of Minutes: the minutes of the February meeting were not available for review so they were not approved.

Treasurers Report- Sue Clark- Since Jan 1, 2011 we have received \$541 in donations. We also received a 319-grant advance of \$12, 500 and a Clean & Clear advance of \$2000. There is currently \$16,648.78 in checkbook. Sue presented an invoice of \$4,993.66 of bills that have been paid. Franklin Watershed local dollars report was presented; there is \$6, 797.80 available (see attached). There was concern that the Audit was not received via fax, Jim received a second notice saying it wasn't received (dated March 8). Sue will be double-checking that the fax she sent was successful – it was sent the previous Thursday (March 3).

Vermont Organic Reclamation (VOR): Tim Camissa and Keith Friends

Before the presentation everyone at the meeting introduced themselves to the VOR presenters, Tim Camissa and Keith Friend. VOR has received \$80,000 in grant money for manure management that is available to farmers. They have built a facility in St Albans where they develop systems that reintroduce carbon into the soil. They've developed a process to extract matter from the manure pits to create compost, which is then being shipped out of the watershed for resale to the Mid-Atlantic region. They use organic materials to make animal bedding and potting soils. They have developed a mobile manure removal system that removes approximately 20% of phosphorous from manure pits by retrieving some of the organic materials from manure pits. Farmers are paid for their organic matter at between \$3-\$5 per ton. They are also offering an incentive for a farmer to host a demonstration at their site. It is estimated that 2% of the total volume of the pit is removed during this process.

VOR is also connected with Green Mountain Coffee to reuse spent coffee beans in their soil mixture along with the manure solids. They also develop and sell plants that are grown in his potting mixture. They encourage Franklin farmers to sign up with their program, where they will receive some new income and rid their farm of excess phosphorous.

Agricultural Incentive for 2011- Due to the other meetings that were taking place on the same evening, there was low attendance of farmers at the meeting. The group agreed to meet again on Wed 23rd to discuss the agricultural incentives for 2011.

Coordinator's Report- Heidi Britch-Valenta

Heidi noted new member Jeff Teitelbaum who would like to become more active in the group as a result of his upcoming retirement.

Website- is moving forward slowly and Heidi must meet with Kris again to answer more questions for him. Board member bios are needed for the website.

The group has been notified that they were not successful in their bid to receive funds from the watershed license plate fund.

Dun and Bradstreet has refunded the \$229 they previously charged for a free C&R number which was a requirement for the 319 grant.

Membership Drive- memberships are continuing to come in. More statistics will be available at the next meeting when Polly returns.

Town Meeting Day Report- David Breed

Town Meeting Day was a success for the FWC, the town voted "Yes" to accept the donation of the "public beach" to the town. There was a hefty amount of debate over the subject regarding the instillation of personal dock units and liability. The final vote to accept the donation was 73 yes to 15 no.

David noted that Kyle Lothian and Yvonne Dandurand were elected to the Selectboard and this was well received by the group.

Presidents Report- Jim Cameron

Jim reported on the septic feasibility study which will be taking place this year. The Town of Franklin has agreed to accept funding dollars from the state wastewater division to access the septic situation in Franklin Village and the Lakeshore area. The FWA will be coordinating the committee which will be made up of LCCA, FWC, Village Residents, Health Officer, and Planning Commission, and Selectboard members. The first meeting will be on Wed 16th.

A date of April 30th from 10:00am-1:00pm was set for the next Board Development session.

The previously amended Bylaws were signed by the two officers present. Peter Benevento will need to sign when he returns to Vermont.

Ag Session Recap- Jim Cameron, Paul Stanley There was a recap discussion on the ag session which was held on February 26th from 10:00am to 12:30. 35 people attended. The speakers were well received particularly the keynote speaker, Eric Young, from Miner's Institute who spoke on the effects of tile drains on phosphorus levels in runoff. The group enjoyed a slide show and ice cream.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14th at the Franklin Elementary School 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Polly Perkins and Heidi Britch-Valenta