

THE FRANKLIN WATERSHED COMMITTEE
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Franklin Homestead
January 12, 2012

Participants: Martine Gates, Ashley Bachelder, Susan Clark, Lucille Rainville, Jim Cameron, Paul Stanley, Jeffrey Teitelbaum, Heidi Britch-Valenta, Peter Benevento and Bruce Bushey(via intermittent conference call).

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Jim made a motion to approve minutes of the December 8th meeting and Sue seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Martine distributed the year- end report. We are still waiting for final numbers for 2 grants; Clean and Clear and The 319 Grant. (see balance sheet dated Jan 1, 2012)

Heidi advised the board that she had neglected to send in a pre-approval subcontractor form to C&C and consequently the labor could not be covered. This meant that \$350 had to come out of local funds to cover the expense.

Sue advised that we set a plan for local funds next year to create a buffer for the reimbursement process. We must have the available funds to pay contractors then submit requests for reimbursement. The group agreed to set priorities for future local funds spending at the next meeting.

President;s Report: Presented by Jim Cameron.

1. **Septic Study:** last week's meeting was well attended. Most of the discussion centered on the village issues. Options discussed were village scaled systems and street scaled systems. The school's septic system will be examined to determine if there is extra capacity. Lake property discussion was limited and will be revisited in the summer when campers return and are able to participate. Water conservation presentation of pricing and models for individual camps and small group systems will be options that will be discussed.
2. **Hammond Shore Road:** FWSC has purchased 20 geo-textile filter bags to hold silt that will be removed from the Hammond Shore lakefront area. The Vermont Department of Labor will provide 10 workers in the spring to help remove silt. Jim will contact a New York based firm that does this kind of work to get their perspective and for advice. The LCBP Agricultural BMP Grant has received an extension for the remaining funds (estimated to be +/- \$4,000) to be used for the pumps, wetsuits, transportation and any additional bags.
3. **AmeriCorps** the hiring committee met with Amy Soriano regarding the watershed technician spot. The committee was pleased with the interview and would like to offer her the job. She will serve from January 23 through September 14th. She'll work for 26 hours /week. She is a Cornell graduate with experience with The Nature Conservancy in Oregon. Sue made a motion to hire her for \$2684. Martine seconded. The motion carried with Peter voting via conference call.
4. **Dam Report:** Sue and Jim have been working to contact an expert on the Mill Pond Dam to

inform the group of the history and the best plan of action for potential upgrade. Jim has spoken with an expert who has informed him that pertinent historical data about the dam was damaged in the summer floods. They are being restored and should be available within 6 months. A speaker will be invited for the spring when campers have returned.

Agricultural Session Update: Heidi and Paul presented. The session will be held in the Felco Room at 9:30 on February 25. Speakers and presenters are being contacted. A discussion of the potential agenda led to a decision to expand social times from last year and to possibly include a post dinner session, as well. Board members will plan the menu at the next meeting. Paul and Heidi will speak with local businesses for door prizes. Lucille made the first donation of a \$10 Dunkin Donuts gift card. 35 people attended last year. The same or more are expected this year.

Coordinator's Report:

1. There is \$9492.52 remaining in the 319- 2011 account. This was due to some of Coordinators hours being covered under other grants and other projects that did not come to fruition- i.e. soil sampling, Dewing Brook stabilization. A roll-over request to 319 was presented for discussion. Of the funds remaining Heidi suggested keeping enough funds to cover AmeriCorps salary and to budget the remainder to pay for data analysis which is required by the 319 grantors. The UVM "Lands" project, which specializes in data analysis of this kind, has been contacted but a cost estimate has not been reached. The proposal was approved.
2. The 2011 close-out report is finalized but hard copies were not available.
3. Heidi distributed the "2012 Grant Funding Overview". Funding for next year in grants and labor assistance are approximately \$90,000 with some grants still pending.

Lake Champlain Basin Program Grant cycle has still not opened up for this year. We currently have no funds for next year's agricultural BMPs. It is hoped that we will be able to secure this funding again.

Jim will create a budget for this Spring's Hammond Shore clean-up project.

4. Heidi presented the ERP official Procurement Policy for subcontracted work for board approval. A suggests a \$2,500 limit was included before we are obligated to solicit bids for work. Jeffrey moved to accept the policy. Susan seconded. The policy is unanimously approved.
5. At the December meeting wireless service for the FELCO room was discussed as a way to keep the meetings at the FELCO room but still have available internet options for presentations and for skype coverage. The group requested a quote. It was currently running for this meeting as a trial. It is offered to the FWC for a hook up fee of \$75 and will cost \$19.95/ month to maintain. Disconnecting it in the summer is an option that can save money. The Board agreed to try this for 6 months. Sue asked for clarification if this would be local funds. It was suggested that we try to ask for the total in 319 funds roll-over request.
6. Public Beach- Jan 19 meeting date to plan a summer strategy for clean-up days and to plan the next steps for funding requests. The board is perplexed as to how to proceed after Vtrans dumped stone along the entire shoreline.

7. The Governor's Award application is due by January 20.
8. LANDS data Collection, UVM - Heidi and Peter have been speaking with Deane Wang, program director to find out the best way to evaluate data on our will have info for next meeting. Peter sent water sampling data as a first step. Heidi sent last three years of final reports to give them an idea of the type of programs we offer. It will be a large project to evaluate our impact on phosphorus levels for each action item in our TMDL.
9. Channel 15- public access channel has inquired about broadcasting FCWS meetings. The board agreed to this at certain times when we have a program or speaker.
10. No new info yet on LCBP funding.
11. Heidi informed board that she will buy external memory to store FWC pictures for her computer. She will also use funds to replace a shovel, broken by a member of past summers AmeriCorps crew. Total cost under \$100.
12. Heidi has made a request to the town auditors to dedicate the Town Report to our late friend David Breed. Sue advised that this is the auditors' decision, and they are not certain they want to continue to feature deceased town members on the cover to avoid offending families of other deceased towns people that were not honored in the same way.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Dates of Interest:

January 19 Beach committee- Felco Room

February 9 @ 7:00 pm Monthly FWCS Directors Meeting- Felco Room

February 25 Agricultural Session @ 9:30 am in Felco Room