

**DEERFIELD RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING Minutes**

DATE: Monday, June 20, 2022 **TIME:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

LOCATION: via Google Meet

	Art Schwenger	x	Chris Bathurst
x	Charlie Olchowski		Ryan O'Donnell
x	David Boles		Sheila Kelliher
x	Jim Perry	x	Terry Atkinson
x	Chris Curtis	x	Patrick McCoy

Special Guests: James Boehmer; Jack Widness - VT Representative

PURPOSE: Regular Monthly Meeting – Please let Jim know if you cannot attend.

LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED

--Call to order

--Review past minutes – **May 20, 2022** (Jim Perry) *Minutes accepted.*

--Identify New Agenda Items not included in this proposed agenda.

Board Member Reports - Potential Open Leadership Positions (**Lead?**)

- **President & Vice Presidents:** (Jim Perry – President; Chris Curtis – 1st VP; Charlie Olchowski 2nd VP)
 - Board of Directors Search for Additional Directors: (All)
 - Mail & Email Call: Do we have any? (Jim)
 - CRC Liaison: Latest news. (Ryan)
 - A Note from Andy Fisk:
 - *I am still working with our CFO to get the journal entry completed so that your account shows the net \$5,000 payment for the North River project. We are bringing on a new consulting firm and have hired a second staff accountant starting today. Mallory returns on 6/27 from medical leave.*
 - *We need to have a discussion reDRWA retaining its corporate status as 501(c)(3). Let's talk in July when I am back, but the administrative costs*

to CRC to manage the reporting is outweighing any benefit to either DRWA and CRC as long as you continue with the affiliate relationship. I recommend you drop it, but that's for discussion.

- **VOTE to end 501(c)(3) status** Discussion, but vote tabled since not all are present. Is the liability/expense worth it? Charlie says it can be costly to get back 501(c)(3) if you change your mind. If giving up streamlines things. Charlie will research more.

- **Watershed Projects:**

- Northern Watershed Update - Update on what types or issues and actions are occurring in the Vermont end of the Deerfield River watershed.. (Jack Widness)
- - *I will request the Board's further help by asking them, their friends and family, and others to great help our Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lake's petition to the VT ANR to manage wake boats on Vermont's inland lakes and ponds by signing our online letter supporting our petition as individual citizens: tinyurl.com/RWVLLetterOfSupport. Your DRWA Board had previously provided the attached strong organizational letter of support. You do not need to be a VT property owner, only a visitor to one of the Deerfield River impounded reservoirs in Vermont, e.g., Harriman, Somerset, Searsburg, etc., by including mention of one of the VT towns in which these reside, e.g., Wilmington, Whitingham, Readsboro, or Somerset.*
 - *If individual members have additional interest in providing written comments to the ARN before July 29 at 4:00 pm this would also be greatly appreciated. This can be done by emailing Laura Dlugolecki (please use "Wakeboat / Wakesports Petition Public Comment" in the subject line) or mailing to the following address:*

Attn: Laura Dlugolecki

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Watershed Management Division

1 National Life Drive, Davis 3

Montpelier, VT 05620-3522

- Franklin County Rivers Source to Sea Cleanup (formerly, The Green River Cleanup) and the Greenfield City Cleanup. – Status Update. (David Boles, Charlie Olchowski) *Nothing new. Planned for Sept. 24th.*

- Green River Festival Booth - (Chris Curtis, David Boles, Patrick McCoy) *Most of the notes about equipment, scheduling, and other details are on separate document labeled "Green River Festival Booth 2022." (link below)*
 - Stetup: June 23
 - June 24-26
 - **Sign up for the booth:**
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/15HaSG6bKEBNfxen5b8tOaiWCRPhFOOn9guW9kklbDjC/edit>
 - Do we need to buy a new 10 x 10 Canopy Tent with 4 Removable Zippered Sidewalls and Stakes? **VOTE?** *Patrick & David will bring pop-ups and decide which will work. David will get the materials from CRC closet, also table, DRWA & Clean-up shirts, along with other memorabilia.*
 - What materials and preparation are needed? *David has tables, need to bring own chairs to sit in. David B will check on banner at CRC. Need materials to fasten things in booth, rocks, tape, bungees? Bring any materials nature-oriented to draw people in. Jlm will bring trail maps, membership info, newsletters; needs game ideas & materials to play.*
 - Where do we park? Pay for admission or free passes? *David says they always got passes early and is concerned about whether other nonprofits are there in relation to space available. Hopes they'll be flexible as it can be a very long day.*
 - Where do we set up? etc.
- Green River Watershed Alliance - Status Update. (Ryan O'Donnell and David Boles) *David has no new update. Supposed to be sending a flier, but not yet received.*
- Monitoring – Status Update and discuss invoicing process. (Ryan O'Donnell)
 - *My monitoring update is that the E. coli monitoring starts this Wednesday, which adds E. coli to many sites in Vermont and kicks off monitoring in Massachusetts. We did not receive the DEP grant so the program remains unchanged from last year. I will be sending out the results and posting them to Facebook per usual on Fridays. Now that everything is in motion for this year, I will be working on putting together a more formal report of last year's results (some of which I didn't fully receive until March) by the end of July.*
 - *Because of the bottleneck in the finance department, the monitoring invoices were pushed to the back of the line last year. I will be*

happy to discuss the invoicing process moving forward, but I would like to wait until the finance department gets a little bit more settled so I'd like to push that to the next meeting, which I will make a priority to attend.

- Salt - (Jim Boehmer) *Not present.*
 - *Thank you for the recent opportunity to discuss the salt situation. I continue to gather information for two documentary pieces I'm working on and I did acquire the salt totals for the districts in our area and I have a couple interviews coming up. I can reach out to share more as I become more prepared to do so. Thanks for keeping me in the loop.*
 - *I would be most curious to know what DRWA folks think about the spring into summer drought and low warm temps producing lots of brown algae and conditions limiting aquatic cycles. Tough conditions that may combine with others like chloride.*
 - *Chris C wants to know if Jim B will be part of each agenda or whether this is a one time advisory situation. Others would like him to check in periodically regarding this important subject but not make it a single issue on the board with everything else going on.*
- Wild & Scenic Rivers – Status. Update on community and legislative outreach efforts. Next steps. (Chris Curtis with Charlie Olchowski and Patrick McCoy) *Congressman Jim McGovern will be there. Event will be on bridge, other states reps will be invited. Deerfield Selectboard and most of 22 other selectboards + 12 other organizations are invited. Chris is meeting with them to plan details on who will speak, etc. Expects it to last about 1 hour. Jim P suggests a cleanup beforehand. Should we bring banner to fasten to bridge railing? Chris thinks bringing some of same materials as Green River Festival. Charlie suggests the fact sheet should be available for this event and GR Fest. David mentions small handouts about Franklin County Rivers Cleanup would be good to include. Charlie mentions getting attention of Monte Belmonte on this issue and may give some coverage. Charlie will contact Monte and mention David, too. Name Tags will be needed. David suggests we consider making a sort of travel pack of such materials for taking to events.*
 - *Wild and Scenic River media event will be held on Monday, July 25 from 10am to 11am at Stillwater Bridge in Deerfield. "Be there or be square." Chris will coordinate and run the event. Recommended to contact Domenic Poli at The Recorder, Kevin at Bear Country, Rick Danger at WHAI per David. Maybe an interview with Monte?*
 - *Name tags, Markers, Newsletters, Brochures, Mo-Mo maps, etc?*

- Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership – Status Update. (Sheila Kelliher)
 - *Conway Tree Planting was a success. Sheila not present.*
 - *The MTWP met on June 7 - we had a brief discussion about the 10-year plan. There are still ongoing conversations with town select boards, and there will be an online portal for comment from board member's. There will also be future listening sessions about the 10 year plan in the fall. The 10 year plan is very detailed!*
 - Review of draft 10-year Plan:
 - <http://www.mohawktrailwoodlandspartnership.org/partnership-plan.html>
- Trout Unlimited – Updates on what Trout Unlimited has been up to on the Deerfield River. (Sheila Kelliher)
 - TU - Fly casting clinic on 6/16 at Mohawk High School
 - July - Fly fishing for Carp in Rowe
 - August - Annual banquet at the Warfield House
- Mass Rivers Alliance - Current issues.
- Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission's virtual Connecticut River Research and Management Forum - Report out by Terry Atkinson.
- General Notes on fish passage this season from the 6/15/22 CRASC Technical Ctte Meeting: *Fish passage was slower to start this year due to lower river temperatures in April & May. Though numbers are apt to still increase slightly, it seems shad passage is apt to be under 190,000 this year. 2010 was the last time fish passage was under 200,000 at Holyoke. Lamprey numbers were lower, as were blueback herring. Numbers at Turners Falls & Vernon seem to be tracking the same, given the lag time with data.*
- Trail Maintenance – Status. (Art Schwenger, with Chris Curtis, Chris Bathurst, Jim Perry)
 - On Saturday, June 18, Chris Bathurst, my daughter, and I removed several fallen and dangerous trees from the Mohican-Mohawk Trail on Franklin Land Trust property. *It took less than an hour.*
 - **Who would like to join** Chris Bathurst and I to remove 4 fallen trees and two dangerous trees along the Wilcox Hollow section of the Mohican-Mohawk Trail? Will probably take an hour. Options include: July 10, 16, or 30th at 9:00 AM. *This section has a lot of trees down, some are dangerous. Once this work is cleaned and can put up blazes.*
 - Mohican-Mohawk Trail Hike - July 9, 9:00 AM at Arms Library in Shelburne Falls. **Should we put this on our website?**
 - Jim is in communication with Central Rivers Power about plans for re-connecting (or not) the trail directly behind the Gardner Falls power station to re-complete the loop trail.

- Deerfield River Recreation Management Plan – Status. (Jim Perry)
 - *Still waiting on our first meeting for developing a river plan. Jim hasn't heard from them.*
- **Website Maintenance, Google Docs, Email System:** (Patrick McCoy) Status - **Voted to approve** the proposed DRWA website Indigenous Peoples Statement:
 - **Indigenous Peoples and Land Acknowledgement** It is with gratitude and humility that the Deerfield River Watershed Association acknowledges that we are learning, speaking, working, and gathering on the ancestral homelands of the Mohican, Pocumtuc, and Western Abenaki people, who are the indigenous peoples of this land in which our watershed lies. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors as we commit to taking active measures to conserve, protect, preserve, and enjoy the treasured resources of these lands.
 - Where to put the statement, if approved. *Most people think it belongs on our homepage. Motion carries in vote to put this acknowledgement on DRWA homepage.*
 - Home Page below Executive Summary and above the Blog posts?
 - DRWA History page?
 - Other?
 -
- **Financial Report:** Review Mallory's Financial Report. (Patrick)
 - **Last Updated: July 18, 2022 by Jim to include Monitoring expenses**
 - **2021** Budget: \$4900.00
 - Surplus: \$4479.24
 - Donations/Income: \$8,614.22
 - Expenses: \$4,134.98 (**Now includes** Monitoring cost)
 - 07/18/2021 Jim approved 2021 water monitoring expenses of \$1,952.00
 - Net Income: \$4,479.24
- **Secretary:** (Terry)
- **Relicensing:** (Chris Curtis)
- **Membership & Community Outreach:** (**Overall Lead?**) (Sheila Kelliher (Instagram) with Jim Perry (Newsletters) and Ryan O'Donnell (Facebook))
 - DRWA Instagram Account – (Sheila)
 - Facebook Account – (Ryan)
 - Newsletters - (Jim)
 - If you did not receive the following newsletters, let Jim P know:
 - **Spring Appeal Letter** sent out (CRC).
 - **Summer print insert newsletter** (CRC). (**may not have arrived yet**)
 - **Summer E-News** sent out (CRC)
- **Education:** (Terry Atkinson)

- Education Outreach: Jim P will be leading one Shelburne hike a month starting in July and ending in October in partnership with The Town of Shelburne Open Space Committee and the Arms Library in Shelburne Falls. The July 9th hike is on the Mo-Mo Trail starting at Franklin Land Trust and ending at the beaches at Gardner Falls, maybe continuing past the end of the Wilcox Hollow Road. **Do we want to add this to our Media outreach?** *We agree it should be announced on DRWA website, too.*
- Mini-Grants – Hold until late summer. (Terry)
- [Science]: (Lead?)

New and Old Business:

Next meeting: July 18, 2022, 6:00 PM, via Google Meet.

Assignments & Adjournment:

Robert's Rules of Order (condensed)

Types of Motions:

Main motion; Substitute motion; Friendly amendments; Call the Question; Motion to table; Motion to reconsider.

How the Motion is Brought Before the Assembly

- A member makes the motion: *I move that (or "to")*
- Another member seconds the motion: *I second the motion*
- The chair states the motion: *It is moved and seconded*

The President puts the motion to a vote

1. The President asks: *Any further discussion?*
2. The President says: *Those in favor, say 'Aye'.* (Pause for response.) *Those opposed, say 'Nay'.* (Pause for response.) *Those abstaining, please say 'Aye'.*

The President announces the result of the vote.

1. *The ayes have it, the motion carries, and ...* (indicating the effect of the vote) or
2. *The nays have it and the motion fails.*

HOST Initiating Google Meet

1. Log into the DRWA Google profile using the username/pswd (e.g., login to DRWA's gmail account).
2. Once logged in Google as DRWA, click the Google Meet link and join the meeting.

3. Once in the meeting, you'll get a pop-up window asking you to grant access to each attendee looking to join.