



Niantic River Watershed Advisory Committee

Minutes

Board Development Subcommittee Meeting

October 12, 2010

3 - 4 pm

LTA Room, Waterford Town Hall

15 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, CT

Attendees: Joe Mingo, East Lyme; Eric Thomas, CT DEP; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator

Judy Rondeau opened the meeting at 3:16 pm.

1. Welcome: Judy welcomed participants to the meeting.
2. Review of August 10 and September 14, 2010 Meeting Minutes:
Judy noted a correction to the September 14th Special Meeting minutes that was provided by Tony Irving, regarding the genesis of the Eight Mile River Wild & Scenic Watershed. As clarified by Tony, "Study of the Eight Mile grew out of UConn's and the TNC's study of the Chester River Watershed (situated in one town) to see if a watershed approach would work in a larger watershed that included numerous towns requiring the various municipalities to work in concert. The Eight Mile was chose for this effort. Out of that study grew the decision to go for federal Wild and Scenic status." Minutes for the August 10th and September 14th meetings were approved by consensus, with the correction as presented.
3. Watershed Coordinator's Report:
Judy reported that the Low Impact Development program sponsored by the Outreach and Education Subcommittee was held on September 29th at the Oswegatchie School in Waterford. Prior to the excellent presentation on LID by Jessica Morgan, the CT DEP Low Impact Development Coordinator, a tour of low impact development techniques incorporated as part of the school's storm drain system was led by Tom Wagner, the Waterford Planning Director, and Maureen Fitzgerald, the Waterford Environmental Planner. Eric Thomas commented that he had recently received a report produced by the Washington State DOT on barriers to low impact development, and that current stormwater management measures employed by CT DOT is an important element of watershed management that is not addressed in the Niantic River Watershed Protection Plan. Those interested in reading the WS DOT report can follow this link:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/research/reports/fullreports/756.1.pdf>

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4. Discussion:

a. By-laws: By-law discussion focused on the sample by-laws distributed at the August 10th board development meeting and via email, and elements of the Membership section (Article IV) of the Eightmile River Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee by-laws (distributed at the Sept. 14th meeting and via email). Discussion focused on the Eightmile Coordinating Committee's concept of charter, or core, voting members and non-charter, or advisory, members. Discussion followed regarding identifying appropriate members for each group, identifying stakeholders who would bring appropriate skills to the table based on current activities, and remaining mindful of the variety of stakeholders who could potentially be drawn into the advisory group, including businesses and business organizations, utilities, educational groups, and the development community. It was suggested that Judy query the CEOs and staff of the four watershed towns to determine what organizations (land trusts, citizen's groups, agencies or other organizations) working in their respective towns they feel should be included in the Advisory Group. It was concluded that Judy will draft an amalgam of the two by-laws for consideration at next month's Board Development meeting, and contact the four towns for input on Board participant make-up.

5. New Business: None

6. Next Meeting: **November 9th 2010, 3:00 PM, LTA Room, Waterford Town Hall.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:10PM.

Action Items:

- **Judy will combine the 8-10-10 draft bylaws and the Eightmile River by-laws, and distribute for review prior to next month's meeting.**
- **Judy will contact the four watershed towns to see who CEOs and staff would like to see included on the Board, either as core or advisory members.**
- **Based on above, Judy will create a list of possible core and advisory members.**

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