

**RIVER STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL**  
**May 27, 2014**

Present: Mary Antes, Wayland; Doug and Aviva Brooks, Concord; Cindy Delpapa, Commonwealth, Bill Fadden, Framingham; Alison Field-Juma, OARS; Ralph Hammond, Bedford; Libby Herland, US Fish and Wildlife; Jim Meador, Lincoln; Steve Pearlman, Carlisle; Tom Sciacca, Wayland; Anne Slugg, Sudbury; Lee Steppacher, National Park Service

Absent: Nancy Bryant, SUASCO Community Council; Lisa Eggleston, SVT; Betsy Gallagher, Billerica; Nancy Hallen, SVT

Cindy Delpapa called the meeting to order at 7:08. The minutes of April 22, 2014 were approved with three abstentions (Herland/Steppacher).

**Riverfest Update**

Alison asked members to distribute Riverfest brochures. The events are listed on the old website now and will be on the new website when it is ready to use. Lawn signs can go up on Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Aviva has secured desserts from Concord Tea Cakes and Deborah's and a \$50 gift certificate from Crosby's Corner. Ann is soliciting Verrill Farm; Nancy is soliciting Sudbury Farms; Tom, Russell's; and Mary Stop and Shop. Cindy would like the names and addresses of all donors so she can send thank you notes. The list of contributors could be listed on the bottom of the program. It was suggested that we reach out to Katherine Clark.

**Proposed SWMI Regulations**

The deadline for comments is July 10. A subcommittee will meet at the OARS office on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 to discuss how the RSC might comment on the regulations. While the regulations are very complicated, it was suggested that we comment on only the three or four most important issues.

OARS has completed a study to identify ways six communities can meet the new SWMI regulations, which will take effect in 2015. They apply only to users of over 100,000 gallons and do not apply to private wells. Alison will have more to say about the project at a later date.

**Updates**

*Small Grants:* Lee asked members to encourage people to apply. It was suggested that since CISMA and SVT were not fully funded through the grant program they could apply for additional funds through the small grants program.

*River Stewardship Awards:* Lee said the panel met and selected six awardees: Acton: Bettina Abe; Bedford: Mark Levine, Hal Ward, and Paul Marcus; Carlisle: Warren Lyman and Deborah Geltner; Concord: Peter Alden (Outstanding Steward Award); Sudbury: Ann Kirk; and Wayland: Emily Norton.

*Bob Ratcliffe, NPS Visit:* Bob Ratcliffe, who is in charge of the Wild and Scenic program for the National Park Service (NPS), made a week-long New England tour. He would like hard data to demonstrate that the program leverages additional funds as well as the sources of those funds and the number of volunteer hours. Since our rivers are as close to an urban river as any in the NPS, he is interested in the participation from urban areas. He was impressed by the cooperation among the partnership rivers. Comments were submitted on the proposed Director's Order 46 which outlines the wild and scenic program at NPS. Lee will send out Cindy's annual report.

### **New Business**

*Summer Schedule:* There will be no meeting in June. The July meeting will be held on the regular schedule. The August meeting will be the annual boat trip and Jamie will provide a history of the Wild and Scenic program at the September meeting.

Anne will meet with the Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers to select images from various locations for an exhibit. The exhibit will begin in Billerica on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Tom's wetlands appeal was rejected on legal technicalities and the decision will be appealed. The Wayland Rivers' Edge project was approved at Town Meeting.

Nancy Bryant was planning a June stormwater workshop. We have not heard from her and do not know if the workshop is on schedule.

Alison announced a forum in Hudson on June 24<sup>th</sup> on the Sustainable Water Management project that OARS has been involved in.

This may be Lee's last meeting. She was given great accolades for her work since 2001. She has no official last day. Her position will be filled although there is an opportunity to make some changes to the job description. Everyone agreed that she has been fantastic to work with.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.