



Connecticut River Watershed Farmers Alliance

April 5, 2016

WRJ USDA Service Center

10:00am-12:00pm

Present: Paul Doton, Katherine Adams, Ed McGlaflin, Tom Beaudry, Jason Johnson, Beth Kennett, Steve Stocking, Walt Gladstone, Bill Emmons, Amy Richardson, Jed Davis, Mary Childs, David Ainsworth, Larry Scott, Robert Bassett, Scott Wakefield, Jenn Colby (UVM Ext.), Dan Hudson (UVM Ext.), Kimberly Hagen (UVM Ext.), Judson Peck (VACD)

10:00-10:15am

General Business

Meeting minutes from March 24th, 2016 meeting were approved.

Mission-vision statement needs revision and wordsmithing.

ACTION: Bill and Amy will work on revision of mission statement

Wilder Dam Relicensing Update

Larry Scott joined the CRWFA meeting to discuss the relicensing of the Wilder Dam and the current impacts on land use. The dam is undergoing relicensing, a 5-year process. Opportunity to provide comment to research studies released and the draft license will begin this summer. Larry shared his experience living on land impacted by the dams. In recent years, frequent fluctuation and inundation has accelerated erosion along the Connecticut River causing significant impacts for land owners. An important comment period is coming up July 15th.

ACTION: Tom Beaudry will work with Larry Scott to spearhead a focus group concerning the dam relicensing and upcoming comment periods.

10:15-11:30am

Frequently Flooded Lands & RAP Timeline

Walt Gladstone gave an update on meetings with Agency of Agricultural regarding "frequently flooded lands" and the new RAPs.

The RAP official comment period is approaching, and will then be submitted to legislation for approval. The Agency of Agriculture has proposed an extension of RAP revisions, pushing the RAP effective date to September.

Bylaws

Bylaws have been submitted and CRWFA is registered with the IRS and has an EIN number. The next step is the application to 501c(3).

Bank

An account will be set up with Citizens Bank.

ACTION: A representative will attend the next meeting to collect information for signer privileges.

Other Business

Discussion about an update email to CRWFA “friends” and setting up a CRWFA email in relation to a website.

ACTION: Mary will send an update email to CRWFA “friends” and contact Laura Hardie to move forward on a website

Catherine and Amy discussed a flyer/brochure to help with membership. They will continue to work on content in preparation of the membership rollout.

11:30-12:00pm

Jenn Colby- UVM Extension

Jenn Colby gave a summary of the LIS RCPP program. Priorities in the program include; partnerships to provide technical workshops, on farm demonstrations, research, and provide technical assistance and ways to reach underserved farmers. Dan Hudson and Kimberly Hagen are part of the UVM Ext. team serving CT River farms on both sides of the river.

Next Meeting

Tuesday April 26th, 2016

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12:00pm-2:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Childs