

Town of New Haven
Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Town Offices
Thursday March 19, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Mark Krawczyk

We welcome all who wish to express their ideas, thoughts and opportunities. As we continue the goals of this commission it is important that we hear from the townspeople that we will serve.

Please come join us.

CC Members Present

Mark Krawczyk, Al Karnatz, Ruth Penfield

Advisor

Tim Bouton

Also present -

Kevin Behm - Addison Regional Planning Commission - mapping work

Steve Libby - VT River Conservancy

Mike Windslow - Lake Champlain Committee

Agenda:

New Haven River Resilience Project

Three representatives of community organizations shared their vision for a grant proposal.

Kevin Behm - Addison Regional Planning Commission - mapping work,

Steve Libby - VT River Conservancy

Mike Windslow - Lake Champlain Committee

Tim Bouton - Addison Co. Chamber of Commerce

In December, High Meadows Fund (mgd by VT Community Foundation) put out a request for proposals for watershed scale resilience efforts - they're looking for projects that involve collaborations between at least 3 towns

They're willing to fund up to 3 projects and have \$120,000 to spend total

The program term lasts 18 months

and there may be a 2nd round of funding to follow

applications for 1st round due April 15

The project will be at no cost to the town.

Vermont River Conservancy - river corridor conservation projects

this seemed like a good opportunity to partner with a number of towns at the watershed scale

how can we work between and within towns to address the issue as a more unified entity

the collective is soliciting ideas from the three towns recognizing that there's already been a lot of work done

The New Haven River is a great scale for this type of project, and has had a range of issues including flooding, connection with the lake, etc.

Want to get the population to connect to the river. Policies can in turn be shaped by this connection and participation. The RFP asks for some type of actionable outcomes. This could be more hands-on type community projects in addition to assessment/inventory and awareness raising.

Steve has also been in touch with Walter Poleman about partnering with the PLACE program to find a student to work at the watershed scale. In this case the inventory/assessment would be focused around the river.

One intended outcome of this project would be to be able to offer advice and suggestions to each town Planning Commission.

Action

The 3 (of 5) NHCC members present made and accepted a motion to partner with the 'New Haven River Resilience Project'

The network would like to have one representative of the NHCC participate in the early visioning/development of the proposal, contributing ideas to help support the town and watershed. The NHCC will discuss who will volunteer to fill that role.