



## **Thames River Basin Partnership October 20, 2015 Meeting Notes**

**Attendance:** Jean Pillo, ECCD/TRBP coordinator; Judy Rondeau, ECCD; Lois Bruinooge, TLGV; Ray Covino, William Purcell, USDA NRCS; Eric Thomas, DEEP; Anne Roberts Pierson, ECCD and Avery Copp Home; Marc Cohen, ASRWWA; Jean Cass.

The meeting was held at The Last Green Valley office in Danielson.

Meeting notes for July 21, 2015 were reviewed and approved by group consensus.

### **Special Presentation**

Judy Rondeau gave a presentation on the Amos Lake Abbreviated Watershed Based Plan recently completed by the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District (ECCD). Amos Lake is located in Preston, CT. It is managed as a Trophy Bass and Trophy Trout lake, with multiple fishing tournaments there annually. The water quality in the lake is degraded and seasonal algae blooms are problematic. Judy, ECCD's Natural Resource Specialist, overviewed what a watershed based plan is and why it was necessary to develop one for Amos Lake. She reviewed the outcomes of a water quality study that was completed with the assistance of The Last Green Valley Water Quality Monitoring Program and volunteers from the Amos Lake Association. This water quality data was used to develop recommended nutrient load reduction targets for the streams that drain into Amos Lake, and recommended implementation actions to achieve those load reductions. The final step in a watershed based plan is to develop a watershed management team that will work to implement the plan, which will be accomplished under the leadership of Amos Lake Association and Preston town staff. The complete Amos Lake Abbreviated Watershed Management Plan will be posted soon on the DEEP Watershed Management Plan and Documents webpage.

### **TRBP Financial Report**

Beginning balance – \$2281.24

Meeting refreshments for July meeting - \$35.23

Final balance - \$2246.01

Upcoming expenses – website hosting and 2 domain name registrations – approximately \$100.

### **TRBP Coordinator's Report**

TRBP is listed as a participating partner for the Thames River RCPP project that is being managed by TLGV. A **Thames River Basin Partnership** Facebook page to assist with notifications of upcoming meetings and workshops has been set up. This is an easy way to communicate upcoming programs, especially since the website is no longer accessible for

updates. Partners are encouraged to “like” the **Thames River Basin Partnership** Facebook page, and send summarized announcements of upcoming programming that can be cut and pasted onto the site.

Floating Workshop XVI – previous suggestions for a theme included Thames River water taxis. There has been no further development of this floating workshop concept. The financial report was approved by consensus.

### **TRBP Business**

To maintain the registered domain names, ECCD will pay from the TRBP accounts to renew our webhosting account through GoDaddy. The website is still available, but the TRBP Coordinator is no longer able to edit the TRBP website. Microsoft ended their support of Frontpage, the software used to develop the website.

ECCD applied to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut for funding to support activities related to the Poquetanuck Cove Conservation Action Plan. These activities will include a Bioblitz of the cove, development of QR code markers for outreach at publically accessible locations, and **funding for a revision of the TRBP website** in order to host the Bioblitz outcomes and the pages linked to the QR code markers. The letter of intent was approved and the full application is due on October 23. The proposed Poquetanuck Cove Bioblitz will involve a number of professional naturalists from many disciplines who will be paired with area high school and college students to conduct a species inventory of P. Cove. The event will likely be scheduled for late May or early June 2017. TRBP partners are encouraged to support this event, either through active participation of species inventorying, or through logistical support for feeding and supervising the volunteers. Partner Reports

TRBP Partner Reports were compiled into the Thames River Basin Partnership Partners in Action Report.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2016. Meeting location and the special presentation TBD.

Meeting notes prepared by Jean Pillo, ECCD and TRBP Coordinator. These meeting notes are considered draft until approved at the next TRBP meeting.