



# Thames River Basin Partnership

## April 16, 2019

### Meeting Notes (Draft)

**Attendance:** Jean Pillo, ECCD/TRBP Coordinator, Gary Lussier, Daniel Danielson, TVTU; Don Danilla, NRWC; Dennis Latchum, Lebanon IWC; Anne Roberts Pierson, ECCD; Jean McInnis, Mohegan Tribe; Judy Rondeau, ECCD/NRWC; Amanda Ryan, UCONN CLEAR; Emily Hall, CT DEEP; Dan Mullins, ECCD; Frank Maletz, HEALTHspital; Joellen Anderson, Avalonia Land Conservancy; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Abby Piersall, Maureen Fitzgerald, Town of Waterford; David Robinson, Deb Moshier-Dunn, Save the Rivers Save the Hills; Tom Morgart, Garrett Timmons, NRCS; Bud McAllister, PHC; Christian Fox, The Nature Conservancy

The meeting was held at the Waterford Town Hall.

#### Special Presentation:

Christian Fox of The Nature Conservancy and Emily Hall of CT DEEP gave a presentation of the draft CT Blue Plan. The Blue Plan provides digital mapping of Significant Human Use Areas and Ecologically Significant Areas in the coastal areas of Long Island Sound. The area covered under the Blue Plan extend inland up to the first bridge crossing of the waterbody. The goal of the Blue Plan is for these maps to be consulted prior to developing a permit application with the intent of avoiding conflicts in advance rather than after time and money have been invested in developing plans that are not compatible with the Blue Plan. The draft Blue Plan is available at [https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2705&q=574290&deepNav\\_GID=1635](https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2705&q=574290&deepNav_GID=1635). Comments will be accepted until June 21, 2019.

#### TRBP Financial Report

Beginning balance \$2013.18

date	Activity	Amount	Balance
1/22/2019	Website Domain annual renewal, hosting	\$40.35	\$2,272.83
	TRBP meeting refreshments	\$10.41	\$2,262.42
	Caryn Oresky, Design & implementation of TRBP website	\$2,063.70	\$198.72
			<b>\$198.72</b>

ECCD submitted an invoice to the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut for \$3000 on March 1, 2018 which has not been received yet. Of that \$3000, TRBP owes ECCD \$916 from the grant funds and \$1250 from TRBP funds, or a total of \$2166. TLGV and ECCD contributed significant in-kind labor to complete this website project.

#### TRBP Coordinator's Report

The TRBP website update

Caryn Oresky of Best Web was hired as our website consultant (referred by Bud)

- A special page for area land trusts has been created.
- New partners are being accepted on a continuous basis.
- A page was created for Water Quality and Planning.
- All TRBP associated documents (meeting agenda, minutes, PIA reports and the Plan of Work) are now up on the TRBP website.
- A Learn tab includes information about river and coastal access points, free GIS mapping links, tide predictors, paddle guides and the clickable watershed map is completed, to with links to regional watershed pages containing additional information on those rivers.
- A special section has been created for hosting information on the RCPP projects
- Under news, any updates to the TRBP Facebook page will show up.
- There are several places where the “sign up for TRBP updates” shows up.

Floating Workshop update

- The 2019 TRBP Floating Workshop will feature the Yantic River. Save the date for June 14, 2019.
- The Bozrah Town Hall has been reserved for the beginning of the workshop. First Selectman Glenn Pianka will be hosting our group. (I met him at a TRBP Plan of Work meeting in 2018.) Maximum seating is 47 people at the Bozrah Town Hall.
- Keynote address will be by DEEP fisheries on the Trout Management Program. Yantic River has a trout management area and some reaches of the river reserved for fly fishing only.
- After the indoor presentation, Dan Mullins of ECCD will showcase a rain garden in the parking lot of the town hall prior to relocating to Bozrah Agricultural Park.
- Lunch to be set up at the park. ECCD to set up their tent. People will be encouraged to bring their own chairs.
- At Bozrah Ag Park, several different hands on stations will be set up and visited on a rotational basis.
- Project O – water quality monitoring
- TLGV/Lebanon IWC – Riffle bioassessment with large screen hooked up to a digital microscope
- TU – Fly fishing demonstration/TU mission statement and programs.
- Other?
- Seeking volunteers to organize optional morning events in the lower Yantic River
- Hike from Norwich Harbor to Indian Leap at Yantic Falls.
- Paddle from Norwich Harbor to Indian Leap at Yantic Falls (keeps the name of the workshop honest)
- If AM activities are lined up, then I will seek a representative from NPU to provide an update on the CSO separation project, possibly where an impacted storm drain empties into the Yantic River.

- ECCD applied for a grant for TRBP Floating Workshop Scholarship funds. The final grant recipients have not be determined yet.

### **Partner Reports**

TRBP Partner Reports will be compiled into the Thames River Basin Partnership Partners in Action Report available for download from TRBP website after is it completed.

Next meeting will be on July 16, 2019. (Location TBD).

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