



Thames River Basin Partnership

April 21, 2020

Meeting Notes (Draft)

Attendance: Jean Pillo, ECCD/TRBP Coordinator, Dan Mullins, Judy Rondeau, ECCD; Garret Timmons, NRCS; Anne Roberts Pierson, ECCD Board member; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; Gary Lussier, Thames Valley TU; Kassi Archambault, Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic River Coordinator; Lois Bruinooge, Bill Reid and Fran Kafalas, The Last Green Valley; Paul Pribula, Joshua's Trust; Amy Paterson, CT Land Conservation Council; John Guskowski, Town of Hampton Planner/CT Resource Conservation and Development Council; Jean DeSmet, Naubesatuck Watershed Council; Kathlene Boushee, Friends of the Shetucket; Tom Olson, Groton Conservation Commission/GOSA; Gary Hoehne, ECCD volunteer; Hillary Kenyon Garovoy, NE Aquatic Research; Pam Wright, Garden Club of Windham; Diana Perkins, Windham Water Commission/Mansfield Water Advisory Committee; Brian Hall, GIS mapping consultant and Hunter Brawley, Brawley Consulting Group.

This meeting was conducted online on a Zoom meeting platform to maintain compliance with Covid-19 meeting capacity restrictions. The meeting was attended by a total of 27 participants but not all were identified by name using the Zoom meeting participation list format. Apologies to anyone excluded from the attendance list.

Special Presentation:

The Last Green Valley has been working with the CT Land Conservation Council and land trusts throughout eastern Connecticut to develop a web-based regional conservation mapping system to assist with prioritizing landscape scale projects. The Mapper was developed by Brian Hall, a GIS specialist consulting for Harvard Forest, and is an outgrowth of the mapping systems he created for MassConn, the Southern New England Heritage Forest and other regional conservation partnerships throughout New England. Together with Hunter Brawley, Brawley Consulting Group, the Mapper was demonstrated and follow up discussion included existing data layers and potential additions such as a cold water stream habitat data layer that has been created by CT DEEP. The mapper project is still being updated. To view and manipulate the mapper, go to <https://harvard-cga.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=86b89989f5674809b311a61eab027b44> This project was funded in part by a grant by the Eastern Connecticut Community Foundation.

TRBP meeting notes from Winter 2020 were approved by consensus.

TRBP Coordinator Report

Floating Workshop update

June 12, 2020 was selected for the TRBP Floating Workshop. Crystal Pond Park in Woodstock/Eastford was selected for the event. Certificate of insurance was secured. Rental fee and security deposit were made to reserve the site. An agenda focused on the Natchaug Healthy

Watershed Implementation Plan was under development, including a speaker from the park, purchased jointly by Woodstock/Eastford using a CT DEEP open space grant, Yale Meyers Forest Quiet Corner Initiative (they wrote a forest management plan for the park), and potentially Jon Morrison from USGS, who offered to talk about long term monitoring data from the Natchaug River. Further planning is on hold until it is determined that it will be safe to gather in a group for this event.

TRBP Coordinator Jean Pillo has relocated to the Brooklyn Agricultural Center at 139 Wolf Den Road in Brooklyn. After 14 years being co-located with the Connecticut Audubon Society at their Grassland Bird Conservation Center, CAS has expanded their teaching staff and needed the space. TRBP would like to thank the Connecticut Audubon Society for their years of generosity in supporting our Partnership through this in-kind support.

TRBP Financial Report

Date	Memo	Amount	Account Balance
	Starting Balance		\$1280.04
02/05/2020	January meeting refreshments	\$17.47	\$1,262.57
02/12/2020	Rental Fee Crystal Pond Park for FW	\$100	\$1,162.57
02/12/2020	Security deposit Crystal Pond Park	\$100	\$1,062.57
	Account Balance		\$1,062.57

Partner Reports

TRBP Partner Reports were compiled into the Spring 2020 Thames River Basin Partnership Partners in Action Report available for download from TRBP website.

Next meeting will be on July 21 2020. (Location TBD).

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