

## Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2020 – via Zoom

**Attendees:** Jacques Couture, Russ Ford, Ellen Fox, Carol Hickey, John Little, Jim MacCartney, Cynthia Scott, Wendy Scott, Dan Seeley, Sherry Willey, and Lindsey Wight.

**Meeting called to order** at 6:36.

**Review of the July minutes:** JL motioned; WS seconded; minutes were approved as written.

**Administrative:** Lindsey shared the updated document tracking our budget and projected expenses. We are doing fairly well, but may have some overage. These funds need to be promised (i.e. the way we do our grants, with a final payment after project completion), securely (know that the projects will move forward), but do not necessarily have to be fully spent. Discussion of ideas of how to spend included some communications from the public about an old swimming hole, working with local schools/teachers (get water testing supplies?), more culvert work, addressing road runoff, cleaning up an old car dump, improving restricting vehicle access into the river. Committee members will reach out to their towns and tell them to communicate with Lindsey.

**River Community Grants/Storm Impacts Grants:** Lindsey shared stories about accomplished projects – NCSU's Encore river trip – students made short videos about the trip and issues faced by our river. Richford's Pinnacle Rd project – successfully slowed the water during our recent storm!

Lindsey also touched base with the other grants – all are moving forward as expected. The Storm Impacts Grants program had extra funds – proposed to split those remaining funds evening among the awardees. CS motioned; RF seconded; proposal was accepted. Lindsey will share this good news with the awardees.

**Other Projects:** Summer Days on the River – Lindsey reported on these trips. They have been well-received and appreciated. Several families took full advantage. Keith has been a great guide – and even pulling tires out of the river as he encounters them.

September 12: Montgomery River Clean-Up – Our usual event, but we'll offer a bagged lunch or something to take-away (Miso?) instead of a pizza party. Keith would support offering a boat tire-hunt. Pre-register, Keith will bring equipment so that folks can target tires that he wasn't able to retrieve on the day trips.

Marriner's bank stabilization – happening with a NWSC next week, but we will need to harvest willows this weekend in advance of this. Lindsey regrets that her quarantine will keep her from leading this, but Ellen will lead. WS, CS, and RF can join on Saturday at 9:30. Lindsey will be in touch about meeting location and other details.

**Upcoming meetings:** September 17 – Committee Paddle! Westfield/Troy area. Perhaps out-and-back from Chase dam on River Rd? Meet at 5:30, on the water by 6, off the water around 7. Then we will do a brief meeting (Jacques will see if we can do this at the Community Center?)

**Wrap up and Adjourn:** CS motioned; DS seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.