**The Franklin Watershed Committee**

**Minutes of January 18, 2018**

**7:00 P.M. FELCO Room, Franklin Homestead**

**Call to Order**

In Attendance: Hal Bill

Peter Benevento (on phone) Rob Evans

Marion Benevento (on phone) Judith McLaughlin

Emily Porter Goff Rob Cormier

Steve Comeau Paul Stanley

**Approval of the 10/19, 11/16, 12/14/17 minutes and treasurer’s report**

The minutes and treasurers reports were approved.

**Treasurers Report**

The treasurer provided the monthly report. The January expenses totaled $1410.16 and the checkbook balance on January 15, 2017 was $11,541.83.

A report of the financial outlook for the FWC was provided. Pending grants, donations and reimbursements total $20,466 and the current checkbook balance is $11,541.83 totaling anticipated funds of $32,007. It was reported that there are not any large expenses anticipated at this time and the general expenses for the FWC are minor. The primary use of these funds is to pay the coordinator and we will have enough to pay her for the near future. In order to pay for any projects in the watershed and to continue with our coordinator, additional grants are needed.

**Coordinators Report**

The coordinator provided an update of pending grants including several with the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Wiki Watershed has offered to sponsor a free webinar that focuses on watersheds. The webinar is schedule for March 15 at 5:00 PM at the Franklin Homestead.

The coordinator discussed an upcoming Girl Scout Presentation which will include soil testing.

**Legislative Breakfast/Legislative Hearing**

Rob Evans reported on the Legislative Breakfast and stated that we received a good response from the members attending the Breakfast. He stated that he had been approached about providing testimony to the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife relative to a proposed bill which would designate Lake Carmi a Lake in Crisis. The hearing is scheduled for February 8. It was agreed that Rob and others would provide testimony. Rob will coordinate the effort. Providing testimony will help bring our issues to the forefront. It was suggested we send letters to legislators support the pending bill.

**Other Business**

Discussions were held concerning tile drains, the dam and potential projects in the watershed. The State will be sending an independent contractor to assess the dam. This will be funded by the state.

A discussion was held concerning an informational meeting with VT Law School. The meeting can be arranged through the Toxics Action Center. It was agreed that the Law School should be invited to the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Marion Benevento, Secretary, Treasurer