**The Franklin Watershed Committee**

**Minutes of May 17, 2018**

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

**Call to Order**

In Attendance: Hal Bill

Peter Benevento Steve Comeau

Marion Benevento Paul Stanley

Greg Tatro

**Approval of the minutes and treasurer’s report**

As a quorum was not present, the reports could not be approved. A discussion was held of the current financial condition of the FWC. There is currently $ 31,629.63 available with no major expenses anticipated. The primary expense for the FWC is the coordinators salary. It was noted that the boat greeter would be paid from the general fund but these payments would be reimbursed by grant. It was agreed that the President had the authority to authorize up to $500.00 in expenses incurred by the coordinator.

**Coordinators Report**

The coordinator was unavailable; a written report had been provided and discussed. The coordinator will work to implement the current grants. A discussion was held concerning possible grants available to improved private roads and how this could be coordinated with land owners and road owners.

**PRESIDENTS REPORT**

A discussion was held concerning the septic outreach. Literature needs to be obtained and organized to provide to all camps regarding septics. The possibility was also discussed of obtaining dye for the campers to perform a dye test on their septics. Road Captains would be needed to contact and provide the information to the campers.

The President stated he had been contacted by Dexter LeFavour of Tota & Howard in St Johnsbury, a company that installs public septic systems and the possibility of one being utilized at Lake Carmi. It was decided to have him come to a joint meeting of the FWC and the LCCA to discuss septic solutions.

The President continued that there is still no information on the Marsh Brook improvements being made by the State. There will be an Action Plan report presented at the next TMDL meeting.

The Lake in Crisis bill in the Governor’s office with the funding removed.

A discussion was held concerning the Dam. The State is contracting to have a hydrological study of the dam and outlet at Mill Pond to determine options available to improve the dam and water quality. At this point no removal of the boards and no fluctuations in the level of the water will be allowed and there will be no dredging done. The Dewing culvert is 2inches higher than the old culvert, but this does not make a difference.

Jill Harps from the VT Law School has advised that a law suit will be very expensive and difficult. She will have her law student’s research improving the TMDL, improving transparency with the State, and improving relationships through mediation.

Paul Stanley stated that the MRBA held outreach with the farmers which were successful. He continued that the RAPS of 4 plus acres of land are covered. Paul continued that he felt we should concentrate on contacting small parcel land owners who rent their land to individuals who are bringing manure into the watershed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectively Submitted,

Marion Benevento, Secretary, Treasurer