

Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers  
Wild and Scenic River Study Advisory Committee

Minutes  
July 15, 2010, 7pm

Tour of the Chase's property/hydro site in Troy before the meeting.

Special thanks to the Jonathan and Jayne Chase for giving us an informative tour of their hydro site! Prior to tonight's meeting about 10 of us joined Jon and Jane Chase at their proposed power generation site below Troy for an orientation tour, which was not only interesting for me and our group but just more confirmation that our river has much to offer for people with many different interests. I think we all need to get out and find out more about what is out there.

Address  
Town Clerk's Office  
Lowell, VT  
Next to the school on Route 100, Lowell, VT

Attendees: Jonathan and Jayne Chase, Jacques Couture, Edward Ellis, Jamie Fosburgh, Mark Higley, Bob Hawk, Phil Huffman, Sylvia Jensen, Cathy Kashanski, Dianne Laplante, John Little, Jim MacCartney, Mike Manahan, Carol McGregor, Corrie Miller, Jeff Parsons, Keith Sampietro, Ken Secor, John Sorrell, Shana Stewart.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Jacques Couture opened the meeting at 0707pm. With many new faces present brief self introductions were completed.

Rep Mark Higley welcomed our group to Lowell, future site of the first significant wind generation project in the state.

2. Review minutes from last meeting

Last month's minutes were approved as written.

The W&S mission statement which Shana agreed to rewrite following the last meeting was approved with one dissenting vote.

3. Staying Connected – Corrie Miller and Bob Hawk discuss their wildlife initiatives in our study area. A presentation by coordinators working with local towns as part of the Staying Connected Initiative (SCI). SCI is a partnership of local, state, and national organizations and agencies working with communities to ensure that wildlife can move freely across the Northern Forest. Bob Hawk, Linkage Coordinator, Northern Greens – Eden, Jay, Lowell, Troy, and Westfield. Corrie Miller, Linkage Coordinator, Northern Greens –Bakersfield, Belvidere, Enosburgh, Fletcher, Montgomery, Richford, and Waterville.

Bob Hawk, with the help of Corrie Miller and Phil Huffman, from The Staying Connected Project gave a formal presentation on the importance of habitat to wildlife in Vermont and our neighboring states (Northeast corridor).

4. Updates from Shana

- a. Ken Secor and Edward Ellis now officially represent the Town of Enosburgh on the Wild and Scenic Committee.
- b. An outreach powerpoint is a tool available to our committee. Shana has developed a powerpoint presentation with basic info about W&S and what our committee is attempting

to do with it here in Vermont. It will be available to anyone in our group who might have such a need. This presentation should take no more than 15-20 minutes for most people.

- c. All appointees should think about where they would like to give a short talk in their town.
- d. The Out of the Blue newsletter featured our Wild and Scenic this summer. Check it out online at: [http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec//waterq/lakes/docs/lp\\_oob37.pdf](http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec//waterq/lakes/docs/lp_oob37.pdf)
- e. Copies of our first newsletter were furnished to volunteers for delivery to Town Clerk's Offices in our ten study towns. Thank you!
- f. The Franklin NE Planning Commission maps which include both highways and streams with names in our study area were distributed to those who wanted them.

5. Mark Higley - Review of acts

- a. H.0462

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/database/status/summary.cfm?Bill=H%2E0462&Session=2010>

- b. H.0763

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/database/status/summary.cfm?Bill=H%2E0763&Session=2010>

Mark Higley talked briefly about 2 bills presently in the legislature, H462 and H763. There is text in these bills about streamside buffers around cultivated fields, and more water quality related stuff. He anticipates final disposition of these bills to occur in the spring session. He doesn't feel competent to determine the impact of these bills on our group's interests himself. Someone suggested we should get someone from ANR to help. Mike Kline and Stacey Pomeroy would probably be a good places to start. I believe that David Deen, chair of water resources and fish & wildlife committee, is listed as only sponsor on these bills so ANR is the actual probable sponsor if truth were to be known.

6. Other

- a. Chase FERC letter

Jonathon Chase will get a letter signed by our chairman Jacques Couture to help him facilitate his FERC application to generate electric power which will be submitted before the end of the year.

7. Scheduling upcoming meeting – August 19<sup>th</sup>

Our next meeting is scheduled for 19 Aug 7pm at Town Clerk's office in Berkshire Center. We will have a presentation on some subject within agriculture, and an organizational budget review.

8. Upcoming Events

- a. Aquafest in Newport, July 23-25
- b. Jay Summer Fest on August 14, 9am-4pm
- c. River Walk Last Fling of Summer, Montgomery, August 28 10-5pm
- d. MRBA's Riverfest in Montgomery Center, VT August 28 4-11pm

Help is still needed to man our booth at the Jay Summer Fest – Aug 14, 9am-4pm, and MRBA's Riverfest in Montgomery Center – Aug 28, 4-11pm.

Meeting adjourned at 0915pm.

Submitted by Mike Manahan  
Secretary