

DRAFT

**Minutes of Connecticut River Assembly Meeting
September 10, 2009**

Attendance:

Members

Joseph Smith, Chairman	Wethersfield
William B. Garner	Enfield
Richard J. Frawley	Windsor Locks
Bill Flagg	South Windsor
Raul DeBrigard	MRPA
Betty McLaughlin	Governor's Appointee
Mark Qunlan (alt.)	Governor's Appointee

Others

Mary Ellen Kowalewski	CRCOG
Steve Sorrow	Suffield

Lacking a quorum, Chairman Smith called the informal meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The meeting focused on proposed updates to the CRA Conservation Zone Resource Map—no actions were taken.

Minutes of May 21, 2009 Meeting

No action could be taken due to lack of a quorum.

Presentation on Completion of Hartford/East Hartford Riverfront Park System

Mary Ellen Kowalewski reported that Riverfront Recapture, Inc. (RRI) staff had a conflict with this evening's meeting and apologized for not being able to be present. Ms. Kowalewski made a brief presentation on efforts to complete the last piece of the Hartford/East Hartford Park System in the vicinity of the Colt Building in Hartford. Marc Nicole of Riverfront Recapture had offered to host the October 8th CRA meeting at the RRI Boathouse at Riverfront Park in Hartford, and to give the CRA a walking tour of the park system prior to the meeting. Those present wished to take advantage of this invitation, and it was agreed that the meeting would take place at an earlier time (approximately 4:30 p.m.), to accommodate the early sunset.

Working Session on CRA Conservation Zone Special Features Map

Mary Ellen Kowalewski displayed a working copy of the CRA Conservation Zone Special Features Map, and asked those present to offer their suggestions for corrections or new features to be added. Ms. Kowalewski had invited Steven Sorrow of the Friends of Windsor Locks Canal State Park to comment on the Suffield portion of the zone, as Suffield does not currently have a representative. The following individuals offered very useful and detailed comments which will be incorporated into the map series. CRCOG

has retained a UMass Graduate Student for the fall semester who will assist with this project. Individuals commenting at this meeting were:

1. Steven Sorrow, Friends of the Windsor Locks Canal—comments on Suffield and Windsor Locks
2. Richard Frawley, Windsor Locks
3. William Garner, Enfield

Raul deBrigard offered some comments on the Midstate Region portion of the zone, and stated that he would provide staff with his notes.

Joseph Smith and Bill Flagg did not have anything additional to offer. Mr. Flagg noted that the CRA zone in South Windsor is all farmland.

The suggestion was made to check the state bike trail map, to see if there are any trails going through the CRA Conservation Zone. It was also mentioned that the new Connecticut Science Center has a continuous video of the Connecticut River that provides unique perspective on the river corridor.

It is hoped that additional information from other members can be added at the next meeting.

Discussion on these matters ended at 8:30 p.m.