

DRAFT

Minutes of Connecticut River Assembly Meeting

**Wethersfield Town Hall
505 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109**

June 10, 2010

Attendance:

Members

William B. Garner	Enfield
Mark Quinlan	Governor's Representative
Bill Flagg	South Windsor
Richard Frawley	Windsor Locks

Others

Mary Ellen Kowalewski	CRCOG
Dick Sherman	East Windsor
Tom Lenehan	Town Engineer, Windsor

Richard Frawley called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes: April 8, 2010

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

Presentations on the Development of Windsor's Connecticut River Trail

Thomas Lenehan, Town Engineer, Town of Windsor, made a presentation on the Windsor's Connecticut River Trail Project. Windsor hopes that the trail will be under construction soon. The portion of the trail from the Windsor Town Center to the I-291 Bridge is already in place. This project will continue the trail from I-291 to the Windsor/Hartford Town Line. All of the land to be traversed is DEP land, and a good working relationship has been established between the Town and DEP. This portion of the trail will cover about 3200 feet, and will include overlook areas due to steep bank conditions, and will connect to a DEP boat launch. The Town hopes to eventually connect to the Riverfront Recapture Inc. Hartford/East Hartford Riverfront Park System. The Town is still in need of raising some additional money to complete the work.

The group also talked a bit about how this trail might eventually be linked to Windsor Locks. The CRA thanked Mr. Lenehan for his informative presentation.

Update on Grant to Study Creation of a Lower Connecticut River (MA/CT)

Joint Commission

Mary Ellen Kowalewski reported that recent meetings with the Pioneer Valley and Franklin County Planning Commissions in MA, and CRCOG and the CT River Estuary Planning Commission in CT had determined that it would be better to work through existing organizations (the RPA's and COG's) rather than create a new commission to coordinate river-related activities in the bi-state area. Work will proceed over the summer to implement this idea. There was also discussion of holding a bi-state forum to build consensus around common goals, concerns, and strategies related to the river. Either this approach will be used, or the original concept of a survey to interested stakeholders. The organizations will also contribute to the development of a web-based map of recreational assets and access points in the two-state area. The Connecticut River Watershed Council has given PVPC permission to use their Connecticut River Guide for base information.

Other Business

There was no other business. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.