

Rockingham Conservation Commission  
MONDAY January 12 at 7:00 pm  
**3rd floor Meeting Room of Town Hall.**

Members present: Mike Ghia – Chair, Rick Holloway, Alan Fowler, Paul Wilson, Fred Bennett

Absent: Guy Payne, Tom Herson, Peter Bergstrom

Guest: none

### **Minutes of December Meeting**

- Paul Wilson moved approval of minutes and Alan Fowler seconded. Approved unanimously.

### **Recruitment and Logistics**

- Gary Fox has submitted his resignation; his service to the RCC has been valuable and he will be missed. Rick Holloway's term will be expiring this year. There was a general request for suggested nominations for future members.

### **Natural Resources**

- Stream and Water Body Naming Project looks in order; suggestion to review Middle Falls as a name.
- Snowshoe/ Hike at Dorand State Forest together with Library **January 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am** (parking, registrations and sign-ins, photography/video) Parking can be a challenge: permission granted to park nearer to Rt 103 and have a shuttle proposed to keep clearer passage on Cambridgeport Road.
- Ash Borer Monitoring and Planning update discussed. There was some discussion and it seems appropriate to direct this report for action to the Tree Committee and for the RCC to serve for consultation and assistance. Mike Ghia will serve as a contact for Alma.
- Discussion about the transfer station in Westminster (near BFUHS) for rubbish and recycling and whether there might be a role for the RCC here. It was tabled for possible later discussion.
- New ANR River Corridor Base Map <http://floodready.vermont.gov/RCFAQ#3>
  - <http://anrmaps.vermont.gov/websites/anra/> (click Watershed Protection Layer and then River Corridors)
  - Flood zone (100yr / 500yr) overlays available as well the “river corridor” which is the area where the hydro-geologists would expect the river to move over time if the river was allowed to change course naturally as rivers do over time. The corridor shows the theoretical range of movement at points along each river.
- Legislative Issues for 2015 : VNRC issued – primary issues involved are the cleanup of Lake Champlain. More local water issues are secondary or tertiary.
- Mike Ghia described the efficacy of various micro-hydro scenarios and their relationship to the grid vs. individual homesteads. Fred Bennett agreed to look for weblinks links.

### **Energy Committee**

- With Gary Fox's departure, there is a need for additional support on the Energy Committee
- With Guy being absent most of the Energy Committee items were tabled.
- Discussed the planned Library Program on "German Energy Self-Sufficiency" which will be February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Library. Guy is helping organize this together with the Library. This will be officially be co-sponsored by the RCC.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting would normally be Feb 9th, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Town Hall at 7:00 pm

**Meeting Adjourned** about 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Bennett, serving as temporary Secretary, RCC