

**Ware River Watershed Advisory Committee**

Contact: Jeff Schaaf at (413) 477-6646

Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date: September 8, 2011**

Members: (members in BOLD were present)

Massachusetts Council of Sportsmen: Robert Carey, William Label

Alternate:

Worcester County League of Sportsmen: Dave Papale

Alternate: (Paul Thompson)

Trout Unlimited: **Jeffrey Schaaf, Co-chairman**

Alternate: (empty)

A Rod and Gun Club: Chris Duggan

Alternate: (Brian Waterman)

Barre Selectboard: **Martha Varnot**

Alternate: **Edward Yaglou**

Hubbardston Selectboard: Thomas Bratko

Alternate: (empty)

Oakham Selectmen: Thomas Hughes

Alternate: Henry Stone

Rutland Selectmen: **Charles R. Williams**

Alternate: (empty)

Barre Historical Society: Burt Frost

Alternate: Peg Frost

Hubbardston Historical Society: (empty)

Alternate: (empty)

Oakham Historical Society: **Wes Dwelly**

Alternate: **Bill Mucha**

Rutland Historical Society: **Helen Viner**

Alternate: Tim Nahrwold

Massachusetts Wildlife Federation: **Bill Westaway, Co-chairman**

Alternate: Thomas Berube

Massachusetts Audubon Society: Charles Delaney

Alternate: (empty)

Sierra Club: Matt Hopkinson

Alternate: (empty) Upper Ware River Watershed Association: **Donald Rich**

Alternate: Edward Yaglou

General Public: **Mark DuBois**

Alternate: (empty)

## **Visitors**

## **DCR DWSP Representative(s):**

Dave Small; Assistant Regional Director  
Herm Eck; scribe

## **Agenda**

STAC Update

Members Issues

### **STAC Update**

Dave Small informed the WRWAC that the STAC was still working on its report, evaluating watershed forest management practices but hoped to have it ready for a joint WRWAC - QWAC public meeting soon. The DCR – DWSP can't sell timber until this report is completed and goes through a public review process. After some discussion about the length of time this is taking to review management practices that are addressed in current, detailed DCR-DWSP land management plans, Dick Williams made a motion to have the WRWAC send a letter to the STAC members and another letter to the Secretary of EOEEA and the DCR Commissioner. Bill Westaway, second the motion and it passed unanimously. Jeff Schaaf will draft the letters and send them to several WRWAC members for review.

### **Members Issues**

Helen Viner mentioned that the Eagle Scout project at the old grist mill on Charnock Hill road has been completed and looks good. Dick Williams inquired about the field mowing permits, which are in the second year of the five year permit. Dick also inquired about the amount of communication between Rutland Police and DCR on issues at Long Pond. Dave responded that he receives a lot of e-mail from various law enforcement groups. Dick Williams mentioned that the Capa corp. may be interested in selling their old gravel pit that is completely surrounded by DCR land, to DCR. The acquisition of this parcel by DCR would clean up some boundaries but it is not a high priority for DCR because this parcel is undevelopable. The high water level at Whitehall Pond was also discussed. The old forestry camp buildings, that are now part of the EcoTarium property, are in need of repair. Dick asks if the DCR had anything to do with those buildings. The DCR does hold a CR on the property. The CR gives EcoTarium the right to maintain the buildings (or not maintain the buildings) as they wish. The CR does not give the DCR the right to do anything on the property other than monitor it. The EcoTarium, staff would like to repair some of the buildings and raze others, but they do not have the resources. A fall cleanup on the watershed was discussed but it was decided that it would be better to plan a cleanup for April to allow more time to organize it. Mark DuBois handed out a progress report for Midstate Trail projects and mentioned a list of new projects. Dave Small mentioned the progress made on the Greenways rail trail and that a restroom was in this year's proposal. The restroom would be located near the intersection of the Greenways rail trail and the Midstate trail.

### **Next Meeting**

**November 10, 2011 at the Franklin Wood Studio in Rutland behind the Police/Fire station.**

### **Agenda**

STAC Report

Approval of minutes

Member Issues