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CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION
Community Relations and Public Outreach
Committee MINUTES
DATE: February 15, 2024

- 1) Call to Order – Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30pm
- 2) Attending: Greg Futoma, Chair; Debbie Langdon; Kathleen Perzanowski; Judy Preston; Jerry Roberts, Suzanne Thompson; Melvin Woody.
- 3) Commission Sponsorships
 - a) A discussion was held concerning events or activities the Commission may financially support. It was felt that sponsorship should directly relate to the Commission’s mission and should preferably be located within the conservation zone. Sponsorship criteria will be considered and an annual budget proposed for review by the full Commission.
- 4) “Who We Are” Brochure
 - a) A basic brochure for general audiences explaining the Commission’s mission and how its work protects the conservation zone was reviewed. Details for writing, designing and printing/copying the brochure were discussed.
- 5) UConn Student Interns
 - a) Two UConn students will work on spring semester internships with the Commission, among their other academic studies. One student will focus on education related to riparian buffers. A second student will use GIS resources to compare the conservation zone’s current forest cover, riparian buffer presence and land development with historic data.
 - b) The committee recommends that the Commission offer the students complimentary registration to the March Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC) conference to apply program content towards their work and to staff the Commission’s exhibition table.
- 6) Conservation Conference Workshop
 - a) The Commission will join with the UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR) and the Rivers Alliance of CT to present a workshop on “Protecting and Restoring Riparian Areas – Rivers’ Natural Protection” at the CLCC conference.
- 7) Exhibition Display System

MOTION: to recommend to the Commission that a portable display system costing up to \$500 be purchased for Commission use at various events, and for display in member town libraries and other public locations. Motion made by: S. Thompson. Seconded by: G Futoma. In Favor: All. Opposed: None. Abstain: None. Motion passed: 5-0-0.
- 8) Realtor Outreach
 - a) Ways to educate realtors and their clients on Gateway standards and the protection of the conservation zone were discussed.

MOTION: to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 pm. In Favor: All. Opposed: None. Abstained: None. Motion passed: 5-0-0.