



## Thames River Basin Partnership July 20, 2010 Meeting notes

**Attendance:** Bill Miller, Pan's Acres Nursery; Anne Robert's Pierson, Avalonia Land Conservancy; Lois Bruinooge, The Last Green Valley; Joan Smith, Groton Open Space; Grace Jacobson, Woodstock Conservation Commission; Eric Thomas, CT DEP; Dick Conway, Niantic River Basin; Mickey Weiss, Project Oceanology; Juliana Barrett, Syma Ebbin, CT Sea Grant; Dixie Goodwin, Trout Unlimited, TV chapter; Deborah Lee, Eastford CC; Greg Chapman and Jean McInnis, Mohegan Tribe; Scott Gravatt and Jean Pillo, ECCD; Marc Cohen, ASRWWA; Bud McAllister, Partners for Healthy Communities; Tom Schumaker, East Lyme

Meeting notes for April 20, 2010 approved by group consensus.

**Welcome and Introductions** The group was welcomed to Project O by Director Thaxter Tewksbury and introduced to Dick Conway, a founding member of Project O.

**Special Presentation:** Juliana Barrett of CT Sea Grant gave a presentation on the importance of coastal buffer plantings. With funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Juliana Barrett and Rachael Cleveland published an 8-page pamphlet in 2009. This pamphlet describes some of Connecticut's coastal habitats, the functions and values of riparian buffers, and how to plant a riparian buffer. Such buffers can minimize the impacts of polluted runoff on water quality and coastal habitats. A list of suitable plants for coastal buffer plantings is expected to be available in fall 2010.

### **TRBP Financial Report –**

J. Pillo reported on TRBP income and expenses from April – July.

The starting balance in the TRBP Account on March 2, 2010 was \$3546.14.

The \$1000.00 donation by ECRC&D Council in support of ECCD staff time (Jean Pillo) was deposited in the TRBP account by error. Those funds were transferred to the ECCD account.

There were 27 paid participants in this year's Floating Workshop @\$20 per person plus a \$40 cash donation made to TRBP. Income from the Floating Workshop was \$580.00.

Insurance costs through the American Canoe Association totaled \$285.00.

Refreshments for the Floating Workshop cost \$126.47.

Phragmites Pens cost \$59.80.

A FW planning meeting conference call through Cooper Conferencing Services cost \$33.25.

An additional transfer of \$300 to ECCD for staff time was made to make up the balance of the \$2000 ECCD staff time cost (\$500 was donated to ECCD by CT Sea Grant and \$200 was donated to ECCD by the Mohegan Sun).

Total expenses to the TRBP for Floating Workshop 10 were \$805.52.

The current balance in the TRBP account as of 7/20/2010 is \$2,321.62.

## **TRBP business**

The TRBP FY2010/11 Plan of Work was not completed in time for the summer meeting. J. Pillo requested organizations to review their activities on the FY2009/10 Plan of Work and set aside time for a conference call to complete this task in 2 weeks. E. Thomas offered to sponsor the conference call through DEP.

Floating Workshop 10 was a huge success with over 50 people participating in all or part of the program. The program was featured on the front page of the 6/27/2010 New London Day <http://www.theday.com/article/20100627/NWS01/306279918>. A recap of this workshop has been posted to the TRBP website, including a short slide show of the main events. <http://www.thamesriverbasinpartnership.org/Floating%20Workshop%202010.htm>

Partner reports were recorded in the Summer 2010 Partners in Action Report, available at [www.trbp.org](http://www.trbp.org).

Next meeting will be October 19, 2010. The target location for this meeting will be Sprague and plans are being made to offer a tour of the Shetucket River fish habitat restoration project near Salt Rock Camp Ground.

Meeting notes recorded by Jean Pillo, Watershed Conservation Coordinator, ECCD