

**WATERBURY PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**Monday, June 9, 2014**

Members present: Ken Belliveau, Vice-chair; Judi Kamien; Jeff Kampion

Staff present: Steve Lotspeich; Lauren Oates

Public: Gretchen Alexander; Kathi Grace; Don Schneider; MK Monley; James Gorham; Lefty Sayah; Bob Finucane; Ann Smith; Gordon Miller; Kathleen Daye; Maggie Kerrin

The meeting was opened by Ken Belliveau, Vice-chair, at 7:03 pm.

**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**  
**FLUME DEMONSTRATION**

Gretchen Alexander, the Central Vermont River Scientist with the Watershed Management Division of the Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation, demonstrated the flume, a tilted sandbox that uses re-circulating water to simulate flooding and model the impacts of stormwater runoff. Ms. Alexander used the flume to explain the dynamics of streams and rivers, the consequences of channelizing rivers, and other modifications of the channel including the removal of gravel. The flume was used to show how streams and rivers normally meander and how that process can be accelerated and worsened with human intervention and manmade changes including the placement of transportation and other infrastructure in the valleys. The mapping of river corridors (fluvial erosion zones) was explained, including instances where erosion prone areas near rivers may be located outside of the mapped 100-year floodplain.

The impacts of placing rip-rap along streams and rivers was modeled, including how stream velocity can be increased, causing more erosion that can destabilize other areas of a stream or river. Different types of culverts were added into the model including those that are undersized, oversized, and have an open bottom. The blow-out of an undersized culvert by storm flow was demonstrated.

It was agreed that the demonstration was very informative and Ms. Alexander was thanked for her presentation and answering questions from those present.

Regarding follow up meetings, Steve Lotspeich will invite Roy Schiff to the June 23rd meeting to review his Lake Champlain Basin funded project examining the economics of floodplain management.

The following public meeting dates and topics are proposed:

Monday, July 14th - Economics & Technical Concepts w/Roy Schiff

Monday, July 28th - field trip, walk the river

Monday, September 8th - Policy and Regulatory

**MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes for the meeting held on May 12, 2014 were reviewed.

Judi Kamien moved and Jeff Kampion seconded the motion to approve the minutes of May 12, 2014, as presented.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING:**

June 23th on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Main St. Fire Station – discussion with Roy Schiff and preparation for the public meeting on July 14th.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Stephen Lotspeich  
Community Planner

\*These minutes were approved on July 14, 2014 \*