

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above-referenced subcommittee held at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 21, 2012** in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilor Gamble and Jacobs

Also present were: Councilor Merritt and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

Guest present were: Mr. Kevin Gough and Mrs. Paula Jones of the Lower Farmington River Wild and Scenic Committee

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Farmington River Wild and Scenic Plan

Mr. Kevin Gough and Mrs. Paula Jones of the Lower Farmington River Wild and Scenic Committee presented a drafted comment statement supporting the study report. It was noted that it would not be appropriate to mention current legislation in the comment. However, communications of support should be sent to legislators regarding Council endorsement.

The National Park Service (NPS) Alternative B. Designation recommended an exclusion boundary for the Rainbow Dam at the Rte. 187 bridge. The committee would like all boundary included, however the Town would support an upstream exclusion boundary for the Rainbow Dam at Rte. 187 bridge or downstream to the Bloomfield/East Granby/Windsor border (a possibility once the Rainbow Dam impoundment is better defined).

The Town of Bloomfield expressed concerns regarding the upstream exclusion boundary above the Rte. 187 bridge could allow expansion of the existing dam operations. It would be unacceptable to the Town if the dam is higher and floods the Farmington River Park.

There are several benefits to designating the river wild and scenic as well as drawing the exclusion boundaries:

- Bike and walking trails, link to the Farmington River Greenway

Overall, the committee urged the Town to comment on the study report by October 17, 2012. They also expressed political concerns regarding the Congressional Bill, which is not consistent with NPS recommendations.

This item was referred back to Council as a recommendation to comment on this study at the next scheduled meeting, September 10, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor Jacobs, seconded by Councilor Merritt to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.