

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

RI Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2012

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Bill McCormick RT Trials Club

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Robert Butler Northeast Association of 4 x 4 Clubs

Stephan Hogan RI Rifle & Revolver Association

Mike Parker Appalachian Mountain Club

Sue Barker Greenways Alliance of RI

Jeannine Dougherty Yankee Trailers

Meg Kerr RI Blueways Alliance

Peter Gengler International Mountain Biking Association

Lisa Primiano RI DEM, Planning & Development

William Bivona Narragansett Tree Society

Meeting called to order at 3:33 PM.

Motion to accept meeting minutes of February 21, 2012, as amended, made by Bob Butler, seconded by Roy Najecki. Approved.

o Westerly Land Trust- Grills Preserve (08-90-10) grant extended to 2013, not 2012.

o Appalachian Mountain Club grant to replace existing bog bridges budget is \$1140.00.

- Current Grants**

o Grant Extension Request, Foster-Glocester Regional School District (11-08-13). Gregg Cassidy reported that wetland permitting issues delayed implementation . Motion to extend the grant one year made by Sue Barker, seconded by Bob Butler.. Approved.

- Small Grant Requests**

Land Trust Council. Education Project \$3000.00. This was deferred from the November meeting so Steve Church could verify that it is eligible for funding under federal guidelines. Motion to approve by Meg Kerr, seconded by Sue Barker Funding Request Approved.

Norman Bird Sanctuary. Grant request for \$3000.00 for fencing and signage adjacent to Hanging Rock Trail to restrict access to the trail area. Motion to approve by Peter Gengler, seconded by Roy Sue Barker. Funding Request Approved.

Appalachian Mountain Club. Grant request for \$1400.00 to replace tools stolen from their storage shed at Browning Mill Pond. Larry Mouradjian initiated discussion of moving the equipment storage to a more secure location at Arcadia Management Headquarters. Stephan Hogan made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Sue Barker. Funding Request Approved.

Narragansett Tree Society. \$2000.00 request for funding for trail improvements. This request was tabled at the last meeting pending clarification of the budget. Bob Butler made a motion to reconsider the request in light of supporting materials, seconded by Peter Gengler. Bob Bivona submitted a motion to approve the project by the Narragansett Town Council, CRMC Assent, and building permit from the Town of Narragansett. Sue Barker made a motion to approve a grant of up to \$2000 for trail improvements at the site. Stephen Hogan seconded. Funding Request Approved.

- **Other.**

Lisa Primiano briefed the Committee on a proposed grant round for municipalities and nonprofit agencies for trail improvement projects. \$873,000 is available. Seven percent of that is for program administration. The timeline would involve announcing availability of grants in the fall, reviewing the applications, and awarding grants by late winter- early spring. Lisa solicited volunteers for a Committee to review the grants and asked interested parties to email Gregg.

Lisa mentioned the trail project at Black Point in Narragansett is nearly complete and encouraged Committee members to visit it. The site had both Cultural Resources and Rare and Endangered species concerns but was completed under budget.

The Conservation Stewardship Collaborative (CSC). Lisa distributed a survey developed for the project. The information collected will be used to develop a website to promote the use of trails. Meg Kerr mentioned that this was similar to one used for Water Trail Map project funded by the Rhode Island Foundation which will provide 20 “web ready” maps to the ten Watershed Organizations (two for each). The maps should be ready within two months.

Peter Gengler summarized the results of the clean up at Big River

Management Area (BRMA). The event, held in the West Greenwich portion of BRMA, involved 120 volunteers who filled four dumpsters in five hours. Key organizers included Ocean State Jeepsters, Rhody Rovers, and the West Greenwich Conservation Commission.

**Motion to adjourn by Meg Kerr, seconded by Sue Ballard. Approved.
Meeting adjourned 4:45.**