

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

RI Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2013

Gregg J. Cassidy RI DEM, Planning & Development

Steve Church RIDOT

Meg Kerr RI Blueways Alliance

Mike Parker Appalachian Mountain Club

Lisa Primiano RI DEM, Planning & Development

Kevin Nelson RI Statewide Planning

Robert Butler Northeast Association of 4 x 4 Clubs

Al Moder NE Mountain Bike Association

Roy Najecki RI Land Trust Council

Jack Lancellotta Pawtuxet River Authority

Jay B. Aron RIDEM, Forestry

Bill McCormick RI Trials Club

Meeting called to order at 3:56 PM.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Meg Kerr and Kevin Nelson pointed out typos. Motion to accept meeting minutes of May

**21, 2013 meeting as amended by Roy Najecki, seconded by Meg Kerr.
Approved.**

1. Existing Grants

o Bristol Fitness Trail (4-90-10) extension request . This project has been completed but needs to be extended to insure the reimbursement is processed before the grant expires. Meg Kerr made a motion to extend the grant six months, seconded by Bob Butler. Approved.

o Warren Kickemuit Blue/Green Trail extension request. This project was delayed because it couldn't start until DOT finished a project in the area. Motion to extend the grant for 18 months made by Kevin Nelson, seconded by Bill McCormick, Approved.

o Westerly Land Trust- Grills Preserve extension request. This project is essentially complete except for work on the abutments. The bridge is open and has been dedicated (Lisa and the DEM Director attended the dedication. Motion to extend the grant through February 2014 made by Kevin Nelson. Jay Aron modified the motion to extend the grant through May 2014 to allow spring construction, seconded by Roy Najecki, Approved.

o Ponagansett Middle School (11-08-13) extension request. Gregg Cassidy informed the Committee that this project required Wetlands

Permitting which has delayed it. Bob Butler made a motion to extend the grant until September 2014, seconded by Meg Kerr. Approved.

o Gloucester Land Trust (11-08-04) extension request. This project is for trail head improvements at Steere Farm. Roy Najecki informed the Committee that the parking area had to be expanded larger than originally intended to accommodate heavy demand. Bob Butler made a motion to extend the grant until September 2014, seconded by Jack Lancellota. Approved.

o RI Land Trust Council (12-08-11) extension request. This project has been completed but needs to be extended to insure the reimbursement is processed before the grant expires. Motion to extend the project to December 30, 2013 made by Meg Kerr, seconded by Al Moder. Approved.

o AMC Tool grant (12-08-09) extension request. This project has been completed but needs to be extended to insure the reimbursement is processed before the grant expires. Motion to extend the project to December 30, 2013 made by Meg Kerr, seconded by Kevin Nelson. Approved.

o Johnston Historical Society (47-90-12) grant cancellation. Gregg Cassidy informed the Committee that this Organization contacted him to cancel the grant.

2. Small Grant Requests

o Richmond Rural Preservation Land Trust. \$2800.00. Equipment Storage. Two different amounts were mentioned in the grant request. There is not a clear connection between the volunteer time used as match and the grant. Roy Najecki made a motion to table the grant until these questions were answered, seconded by Mike Parker. Motion to table the grant was approved.

o Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Assoc. \$400.00. Browning Mill Pond Eagle Scout Project. Motion to approve the grant made by Roy Najecki, seconded by Bill McCormick. Approved.

o Town of Coventry- \$3000.00. Zilpha Foster Memorial Park Trail. This grant request came before the Committee in May but was tabled for clarification. Gregg Cassidy talked to the Grant Proponent and had found that the grant would 90 cubic yards of Fibar and 45 cubic yards of gravel. The majority of the material would be used to repair erosion on a ¼ mile section of a 1 ½ mile long trail. Roy Najecki made a motion to approve the grant request, seconded by Meg Kerr. Approved.

o Pawtuxet River Authority-\$3000.00. Trail Maintenance Equipment. Gregg Cassidy cleared up that the project sponsor was actually the

Neutaconkanut Conservancy not the Pawtuxt River Authority as posted. Roy Najecki pointed out that several of the attachments requested were not needed for trail work. Roy Najecki made a motion to table the request until this was clarified, seconded by Kevin Nelson. Motion to table the grant was approved.

3. Education Grant Guidelines. Denise Poyer researched and developed new guidelines but was not available to attend the meeting to discuss the issue. Lisa Primiano recommended to defer discussion of this issue until she could attend.

4. Other Business

Bill McCormick pointed out a recent article that highlighted the Recreational Trails Program received 82.4 million in the recent Congressional budget.

Meg Kerr made the Committee aware of a recent workshop sponsored by the Environment Council of RI, The National Wildlife Association , and the Wood Pawcatuck Association` that educated 150 inner City kids about kayaking.

Motion to Adjourn made by Kevin Nelson, seconded by Meg Kerr. Approved. Adjourn at 4:10.

Next Meeting:

November 20, 2013 @ 3:00 PM

USDA, 60 Quaker Lane Warwick, RI 02886