



The Rhode Island Rivers Council

c/o RI Water Resources Board
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

Minutes of the Council Meeting held March 12, 2008

Conference Room B
William E. Powers State Administration Building,
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

ATTENDANCE:

A. Members Present

Ted Callender
Guy Lefebvre (Co-Chair)
Scott Millar
Kevin Nelson

B. Members Absent

Joe Baer
Claudia Staniszewski
Will Riverso
Jane Sherman (Co-Chair)
Mike Walker

C. Watershed Organizations in Attendance

Ann Morrill – Kickemuit River Council

D. Guests in Attendance

Ames Colt – Bay, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team

E. Staff

Sharon Pavignano

1. Call to Order:

Mr. Lefebvre called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM.

2. Discussion and vote on minutes for the February 13, 2008 meeting

Not all of the members had received the minutes; vote postponed until the next meeting.

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3. Discussion and vote on potential grant applications

Sharon Pavignano researched potential grant funders and identified three possibilities: the Rhode Island Foundation, the Jesse B. Cox Trust and, the Champlain Foundation. Ms. Pavignano reported that initial contact with the Rhode Island Foundation indicated that they may be interested in funding a water quality indicator project. The Champlain Foundation indicated an interest in funding the purchase of water quality monitoring equipment. Jesse B. Cox Trust expressed interest in the development of a watershed stewardship training program using the Master Gardeners model of a standard handbook, CD's of training sessions, etc.

4. Discussion of workplan implementation

A copy of the workplan was distributed. Committee functions, responsibilities, and membership will be reviewed at the next meeting.

5. Discussion of Bays, Rivers, and Watersheds Coordination Team

Mr. Colt announced the next meeting of the Coordination Team will be on March 26th. He hopes to have a review draft of the Systems Level Plan ready for Team members. His goal is to have a public review draft available by June.

6. Co-Chair Report

No report.

7. Program Committee Report

No report.

8. Funding Committee Report

The Treasurer's financial report was distributed.

9. Policy Committee Report

Mr. Nelson stated that no further work has been done on the Rivers Plan pending the release of the Bay, Rivers, and Watersheds Systems Level Plan. The intent is to coordinate the two documents.

10. Legislative Committee Report

A copy of Senate bill S2798 was distributed. This bill would transfer the Rivers Council from the Water Resources Board to the Department of Administration, Division of Planning.

11. Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee did not meet pending completion of the workplan implementation strategy.

12. Other Business

Ann Morrill presented an award of appreciation on behalf of the Kickemuit Watershed Council to Sharon Pavignano for her past work as chair of the Rivers Council

Next Meeting: April 9 at 4:00 PM in Conference Room B