



## Rhode Island Rivers Council

One Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908  
www.ririvers.org



Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2012  
RI Department of Administration  
Conference Room B  
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### **A. Members Present**

Guy Lefebvre, Chair  
Paul Gonsalves, RIDOA Representative, Designee for Richard Licht  
Lisa McGreavy, RIDEM Representative, Designee for Janet Coit  
Ann Morrill, Designee for Dr. Edward Callendar  
Jane Sherman  
Claudia Staniszewski

#### **B. Guests in Attendance**

Greg Gerritt, Friends of the Moshassuck  
Judy Hadley, Blackstone River Watershed Council / Friends of the Blackstone  
and Friends of the Moshassuck

#### **1. Call to Order**

Mr. Lefebvre called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. He announced that Dr. Callendar informed him on November 11<sup>th</sup> that he had to schedule eye surgery for November 14<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Morrill agreed to serve as his designee.

#### **2. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Ms. Sherman and seconded by Ms. Staniszewski, the minutes of November 9, 2011, meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **3. State Designated Watershed Council FY13 Grant Applications**

Mr. Lefebvre provided members with a summary table of the FY13 grant applications as well as forwarding the full applications via email to members prior to the meeting. Grant applications were received from seven state designated watershed councils and not received from two state designated watershed councils. Two watershed councils submitted a combined application resulting in six applications for consideration. A total of \$14,400 was requested from an available amount of \$15,200. Members agreed that the entire available pool of funds should be distributed this year to watershed councils with no need to reserve funds for Rivers Council administrative expenses.

The grant applications were as follows:

Blackstone River Watershed Council / Friends of the Blackstone, \$2,250  
Trout and Salmon in the Classroom Program at four junior high and high schools

Kickemuit River Council, \$2,250  
Fish Ladder Educational Video & Brochure

Friends of Moshassuck, \$900  
Tree Planting and Knotweed Suppression;  
Afterschool tadpole growth video production

Salt Ponds Coalition, \$2,250  
Green Hill Pond water quality monitoring in conjunction with URI Watershed Watch

Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Assn & Narrow River Preservation Assn, \$4,500  
Saturday Teacher Workshops (four in 2013)  
Jan 12 Growing Up Wild, 4 hours  
Feb 23 Watershed Science, 6 hours  
Mar 23 Wetlands & Water Quality, 6 hours  
Apr 27 Project Wet, 6 hours

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, \$2,250  
Recreation Programs: Paddles, bike rides and walks;  
Monitoring Programs: Water quality and fish counts

Mr. Gerritt was recognized to address the Friends of the Moshassuck grant application. He said the tree plantings and knotweed suppression effort has gone well in the past. Ms. McGreavy inquired about DEM wetlands regulations, and Mr. Gerritt said the restoration effort fits the DEM guidelines for acceptable restoration planting activity. Mr. Gerritt also said the modest video production would be made available for viewing on the internet through an appropriate access vehicle.

Ms. Hadley was recognized to address the Blackstone River Watershed Council / Friends of the Blackstone grant application. She said the program described in the application could be extended from four schools to five schools. There was consensus by council members that this program was well framed.

Members discussed the importance of grant activities and expenditures occurring within the grant contract period. Mr. Lefebvre said that the RI Department of Administration was prepared to release funds promptly this year, but also would like the grants completed by June 30, 2013. In the past several years, grants were asked to be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The grant time frame for this year would be January 1, 2013, (or as soon as the contracts are approved) to June 30, 2013. Members also discussed a full distribution as follows: Add \$150 to the grant applications of the Blackstone, Kickemuit, Salt Ponds, and Woonasquatucket organizations; add \$100 to

the Moshassuck organization, and \$100 to the combined Wood-Pawcatuck and Narrow application.

On a motion by Ms. Sherman seconded by Ms. Staniszewski, which was unanimously passed, the Rivers Council voted to approve the grant applications as follows:

Blackstone River Watershed Council / Friends of the Blackstone, \$2,400  
Trout and Salmon in the Classroom Program at five junior high and high schools

Kickemuit River Council, \$2,400  
Fish Ladder Educational Video & Brochure

Friends of Moshassuck, \$1,000  
Tree Planting and Knotweed Suppression;  
Afterschool tadpole growth video production

Salt Ponds Coalition, \$2,400  
Green Hill Pond water quality monitoring in conjunction with URI Watershed Watch

Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Assn & Narrow River Preservation Assn, \$4,600  
Saturday Teacher Workshops (four in 2013)  
Jan 12 Growing Up Wild, 4 hours  
Feb 23 Watershed Science, 6 hours  
Mar 23 Wetlands & Water Quality, 6 hours  
Apr 27 Project Wet, 6 hours

Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, \$2,400  
(Note: Adjusted to \$2,350 from FY13 Legislative Grant & \$50 from Rivers Council fiscal agent account.)  
Recreation Programs: Paddles, bike rides and walks;  
Monitoring Programs: Water quality and fish counts

Mr. Lefebvre thanked members for their participation, and said the watershed councils would be notified of the approvals, necessary changes in workplans, and contracts prepared in accordance with the unanimously approved motion.

#### **4. Gubernatorial Appointments Status**

Mr. Lefebvre reported that he heard the Governor's office interviewed the working roster of potential appointees in August and September. Members discussed that the Rivers Council is anxious to see gubernatorial appointments and senate confirmations proceed in the first quarter of calendar year 2013.

#### **5. Local Watershed Councils Activities Update**

Mr. Gonsalves said that US Natural Resources Conservation Service funds for watershed repair from Hurricane Sandy damages are available. Earlier in the day, he attended a workshop describing the program. Mr. Lefebvre said he would put a program

description and a link on the Rivers Council website. Mr. Lefebvre also mentioned that the Buckeye Brook Coalition (BBC) submitted completion documents for a past grant addressing a restoration effort on Conimicut Point in Warwick, and the BBC should be considered to be in good standing for FY14 grants.

## **6. Adjournment**

By unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Afternote: Because the FY2013 Legislative Grant was for \$15,150 and not \$15,200, the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council grant will be adjusted to \$2,350, and the fifty dollar (\$50) difference will be transferred from the Rivers Council fiscal agent account to the WRWC.