

**Northern RI Conservation District
17 Smith Avenue, Greenville, RI 02828
(401) 949-1480**

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 6, 2004

7:00 PM

Ed called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

In attendance were:

**Directors-Ed Baker, Jean Lynch, Norm Hammond and Paul Dolan –
Associate Director-Marc Tremblay – Staff-Gina DeMarco and Wendy
Hoyle.**

Absent were: Director-Bill Colburn – Associate Directors-Eugene Pepper and Cathryn MacDonald – NRCS-Mike Merrill.

I. Minutes

-Motion was made to accept the September 1st meeting minutes with the following

correction-under RIFCO it should read that ‘The RI Tree Farm will hold it’s annual tour’. Norm/Jean Unanimous

-Motion was made to accept the September 15th meeting minutes with the following

**correction-change ‘Norm’s name for seconding the motion to adjourn to Bill’s’
Norm/Jean Unanimous**

II. Treasurer’s Report

The September/1st Quarter Expense Report and the Treasurer’s Report were distributed.

Motion was made to except both reports as read subject to an audit. Jean/Norm

III. Old Business

a. Scituate Watershed Education Program

-A Scituate Education Subcommittee has been formed to brainstorm about future

projects in the Scituate Watershed. Those invited to sit on the subcommittee are:

several teachers, directors, Alyson McCann, Eugenia Marks and the Pawtuxet

River Authority. The meeting is set for Thursday, October 19th at 3:30 pm.

-There will be a water quality workshop on Thursday, October 21st at the

Ponaganset High School.

-SNEFCI held their first woodscaping workshop on Wednesday, September 29th.

About 20 attended this workshop. Chris presented an overview of the program

and will have a follow-up workshop to assist in mapping out their property.

-Gina has met with the artist that will be working on the billboard campaign.

b. Annual Dinner

The invitations for the annual dinner have gone out. Hope Leeson will be

speaking on 'Invasive Species on Your Land'. We sent out special

invitations to the legislators and town officials, even though no one is able to attend, we have received several responses to the invite.

c. Pawtucket Rain Garden

-Two weeks ago Gina, Mike, Cathryn and Joel, NRCS engineer, and the teachers met with those from Pawtucket Public Works at the site. The Town has agreed to provide back hoe services at the site. The teachers involved have agreed to maintain the site. Cathy is doing a great job with developing this project. Teachers are trying to raise the funds for the supplies needed. We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony when the project is completed. The rain garden will be a demo site. Cathy is developing a curriculum as she progresses. This will be the 1st rain garden in RI. Alyson and Holly are developing a fact sheet to go along with the home-a-syst program and would also like to put in a rain garden at URI.

d. Farm Tour

Mike is looking for feed back from the board on how they felt the tour went.

The tour included – Bernie Smith’s farm where he explained the

assistance he is receiving; Bob Howard’s and the work being done in heavy

use areas; Kevin Bouthillette’s, Farmer of the Year, and his angus breeding

farm; Smithfield Public Works-assistance with invasive species; Save The Bay-

Fields Point site where there has been grass plantings done; Urban Edge Farm-

tour of lands being farmed by multicultural farmers and products being sold

at local farmer markets; and Still House Cove where removal of fragmites have

been done. Mike presented each landowner with a jar of his own homegrown

honey. We feel Mike did a great job setting up the tour. The board asked that

letters be sent to the landowners and Mike thanking them.

IV. Reports

a. Chair

Ed will be going to Florida in November. He will be returning

in December.

b. RC&D

The Council held a meeting today. There is an advertisement in for the clerical position. The announcement for the coordinator position will go out shortly.

c. NRCS

Mike was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

d. RDC

The council recently had their quarterly meeting. At their annual forum they had a presentation on affordable housing.

e. Envirothon

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, October 13th at Chopmist at 3:00.

They are working on where next year's competition will be held.

f. RIACD

Jean sent a letter to the Governor's office and to some key legislators regarding

the bay project. The purpose was to let them know about all the education and outreach the districts do throughout the state.

**They are trying to secure a date for the next Association meeting
The Annual NACD Meeting will be in Atlanta, Georgia in February.**

g. Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council

-At yesterday's meeting there was a presentation on the US Geological Survey

**on the Woonasquatucket and the Moshassuck water basins.
Narragansett**

Electric takes out 1 million gallons/day out of the basin in Olneyville, which

comes out of the Woonasquatucket.

-The Council is working on grants and has received a grant to display flags

along Promenade Street.

h. RIFCO

Their annual meeting will be November 20th at Chelo's. They will have

someone speak from the American Chestnut Foundation.

i. District Manager

-Gina will be working to put information on the website for the

Scituate

Education Program. Working possible website names. The billboard will have

the website on it.

-Gene Pepper would like to work with the district in holding workshops for

landowners on the proper way to weed and feed their lawns. There is concern

about chemicals showing up in the water.

-Gene has a project at Curran Park in Cranston that needs irrigation pipe

installation. He is looking for assistance in getting this done. FFA is interested

in assisting with this project.

-Our Annual Report is ready to print. The cost would be about \$1,500 to mail

and print.

Motion was made to go ahead and print and send out the Annual Reports.

Paul/Norm Unanimous.

-It was suggested for our next tour with NRCS that we visit agritourism sites.

V. New Business

a. Board Elections

-Chair

Motion was made to elect Jean Lynch as Chair. Ed/Paul

Unanimous

Jean resided over the remaining portion of the meeting.

-Vice Chair

Motion was made to elect Paul Dolan as Vice Chair. Norm/Ed

Unanimous

-Secretary

Motion was made to elect William Colburn as Secretary. Paul/Ed

Unanimous

-Treasurer

Motion was made to elect Norm Hammond as Treasurer. Paul/Ed

Unanimous

VI. Other

-Since Ed will be out of the State, his spot on the State Committee will be vacant.

Motion was made to appoint Paul Dolan to be the representative to the State

Committee while Ed is away. Ed/Norm Unanimous

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Norm/Paul Unanimous