

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

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

6:00 PM

Jean called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

In attendance were:

**Directors-Jean Lynch, Paul Dolan, Marc Tremblay, Norm Hammond
and Bill Colburn – NRCS-Mike Merrill – Staff-Gina DeMarco and
Wendy Hoyle.**

Absent were:

**Associate Directors-Cathryn MacDonald, Ed Baker and Eugene
Pepper**

I. Minutes

Motion was made to accept the October 5th meeting minutes.

Paul/Marc

Vote was unanimous.

II. Treasure's Report

The treasurer's and updated financial reports were distributed.

Motion was made to accept both reports. Paul/Norm Vote was unanimous

III. Old Business

a. Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program

-There will be a meeting on Monday, December 19th to discuss the stormwater

project on Routes 116 and 6. Those attending this meeting are: Mike Merrill,

Chris Modisette, Rich Blodgett, Gina and Alyson McCann.

They will be

notifying those in the immediate area about implementing stormwater

measures.

-We are preparing letters to the teachers for the upcoming schedule. This year's

poster contest will be "What's Driving Water Quality".

b. Curran Park Project

Gina had contacted John Howard regarding the insurance required by the DOA

for the FFA students, but has not heard back from him with any information.

Mike suggested looking into signing up the students as Earth Team Volunteers

and they may be covered sufficiently under that.

IV. New Business

a. RIACD

The Association has voted to request \$1,500 from each district. This money

will go towards conferences for board members and staff.

They voted at their

annual meeting to have the same slate of officers. The next meeting will be

Monday, January 9th.

Ted is very interested in RI sponsoring the 2007 NE Regional Conference. We

discussed the amount of work that will be involved in setting up the conference.

Jean will gather more information regarding what is involved and we will put

this on our January agenda.

V. Other

NRCS

A national news bulletin came out stating that no funds can be used to implement

rain gardens on schools in urban settings under WHIP grants.

We discussed other

ways in which the district could accomplish implementing rain gardens throughout

the state. Gina has completed a one-page draft proposal for the rain garden project.

This proposal included hiring Cathryn on as a consultant for this project only. The

board will need a contractual agreement with Cathryn before we move ahead.

Motion was made to accept the draft proposal for the rain garden project contingent

upon receiving grants to support implementation. Marc/Paul Vote was unanimous.

There was also discussion on what the district's 50% match could include.

Mike reported that NRCS is now receiving applications for all farm bill programs

and is encouraging forest landowners to also apply. Deadline for these applications

is February 10th. There has been a policy change in EQIP to allow funding for deer

fencing. Landowners would need to implement certain soil and water measures

surrounding the fencing. Roylene reported at the State Conservation Committee that

RI's Farm Bill forum received national attention.

On Monday January 19th there will be a meeting with the Natural History Survey

on the lower Branch River assessments.

Mike will be out of town January 2nd through the 23rd. Tim Pindell will be covering for him.

2006 NACD Quota

The district has received a request to pay our 2006 NACD quota.

Motion was made to pay \$775 to NACD. Marc/Norm Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Bill/Paul Vote was unanimous.