

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

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, May 3, 2006**

**7:00 PM**

**Paul called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.**

**In attendance were:**

**Directors-Bill Colburn, Marc Tremblay, Paul Dolan and Norm Hammond – Associate Directors-Eugene Pepper and Cathryn MacDonald – NRCS-Mike Merrill – Staff-Gina DeMarco and Wendy Hoyle.**

**Absent were:**

**Director-Jean Lynch – Associate Director-Ed Baker**

### **I. Meeting Minutes**

**Motion was made to accept the April 5th meeting minutes as presented. Norm/Bill**

**Vote was unanimous.**

## **II. Treasurer's Reports**

**The treasurer's and expense reports were distributed.**

**Motion was made to accept the reports as presented. Bill/Marc**

**Vote-unanimous.**

## **III. Old Business**

### **a. Scituate Reservoir Watershed Education Program**

**-The next water quality workshop will be held May 9th at the Scituate Community**

**House. This workshop was advertised in the Bargain Buyer and Valley Breeze.**

**-Volunteers are needed for the water festival on Drinking Water Day at the Providence Water Treatment Plant.**

**-Items have been ordered for the stormwater project. Those businesses that have**

**been approached, have all agreed to be involved in the project. The Scituate**

**Conservation Commission plans on assisting the district in setting up**

**demonstration sites and literature stations. Anyone interested in assisting in**

**set up, please let Gina know.**

**-Cathryn has been going into the classrooms and there has been 100%**

**participation from the schools this year.**

**b. Rain Gardens/EPA Grant**

**-The district did not receive the EPA Healthy Communities Grant.**

**-There was a 2-page article in the Valley Breeze on rain gardens and what the district has been doing.**

**-Gina will be meet with Mike on May 15th regarding some possibly receiving assistance on rain garden projects.**

**-The district is looking for a location for a rain garden at the stormwater project**

**site in Scituate. Some suggestions were: Winfield Funeral Home area and the Scituate Library.**

**-URI has invited Gina to be on an advisory committee for stormwater outreach to**

**municipalities. Lorraine Joubert has a \$600,000 grant to do this work. The board**

**gave Gina permission to attend the June 1st meeting.**

**c. Seedling Sale**

**The seedling sale went very well. The exact amount of sales**

**has not been**

**calculated, but it looks like the sale has netted approximately \$3,400.**

**d. Update on Proposed 2006-2007 Budget/Salaries**

**-Gina presented to the board the breakdown of salaries based on the federal salary**

**table.**

**-The board was asked to decide on a date for the strategic planning session. It**

**was decided to meet Monday, May 22nd from 4-8pm.**

**e. Legislative Day**

**The 3 districts had displays at the State House on May 3rd.**

**We were able to**

**meet several legislators and update them on what we are doing in their towns.**

**IV. Reports**

**a. Chair**

**No report**

**b. RI State Conservation Committee**

**The State Committee would like to offer a challenge grant to each of the districts**

**in the amount of \$1,000. Several ideas were discussed on how the grant could be**

**used:**

**-outreach into the cities via the seedling sale, ei set up river  
fests**

**-reforesting the cities-street tree inventory**

**-sign with rain garden information**

**c. RI Association of Conservation Districts**

**The next meeting will be held Monday, May 8th.**

**d. Envirothon**

**Volunteers are needed for the Envirothon. It will be held  
Thursday, May 18th at  
the Aperion Institute at Camp Hamilton.**

**e. RC&D**

**The Council is working on revising the by-laws.**

**Their meetings have gone back to the 1st Wednesday of each  
month.**

**f. Rural Development Council**

**At the last meeting, an election of the slate offices took place.  
Marc reported**

on the Wood Expo and is looking to reapply for another grant for the school to

career program. RDC has been involved in the beef-marketing project.

**g. RIFCO**

Marc extended his appreciation to all those who participated in the wood expo.

They would like to do this again, but at a different location. They will be meeting soon to discuss next year's event.

**h. NRCS**

Articles were written on the Pocasset Study and the Wolf Hill Forest Preserve.

Bruce Knight, NRCS chief, is planning on visiting RI June 29th and touring

several sites. Mike will let the district know the schedule for Providence County.

Mike had several plans for the board to sign. Projects included were:

- irrigation for a small orchard
- manure management
- wildlife and forestry habitat
- local land trust on erosion control
- deer fencing and nutrient management

**Mike distributed an updated conservation report.**

**V. New Business**

**a. Ag Day**

**The 3 districts will share a display at Ag Day on May 17th at the State House.**

**We will be distributing small seed packets.**

**Motion was made to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Bill/Norm Vote-unanimous**