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**Northern Rhode Island Conservation District**

**17 Smith Avenue - Greenville, RI 02828 - Phone (401) 949-1480 - Fax  
(401) 949-4436**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**October 4, 2006**

**7:00 PM**

**Jean called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

**In attendance were:**

**Directors-Jean Lynch, Marc Tremblay, Paul Dolan and Norm  
Hammond – Associate Directors-Eugene Pepper – NRCS-Michael  
Merrill – Staff-Gina DeMarco and Wendy Hoyle – Dick Went, Jo-Anne  
Pacheco and Ruth Pacheco.**

**Absent were:**

**Director-William Colburn – Associate Director-Cathryn MacDonald and Ed Baker.**

## **I. Minutes**

**Motion was made to accept the September 6th meeting minutes, Norm/Paul. Vote was unanimous.**

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

**The expense and accounts reports were distributed and reviewed. The board would like to purchase a CD when we receive the legislative funding.**

**Paul mentioned he is unable to attend the next State Conservation Committee meeting. It was agreed that Jean will represent the northern district at the next meeting.**

## **III. Old Business**

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

**-The poster contest calendar has been printed.**

**-URI Home \*a\* Syst would like to hold the next water quality workshop in**

**Western Cranston/Johnston. Gina is researching places to hold the workshop.**

**-The healthy landscape tour and workshop in the Village of Scituate went very well. Cindy Gianfrancesco did a great job doing the presentation in the community house.**

**-The Joslin Farm Tour was a success, with about 80 attending. Audubon, NRCS,**

**URI and the Scituate Conservation Commission gave presentations and short**

**tours. Providence Water would like to see this be an annual event. The district**

**received a call from Roger Williams Zoo inquiring about the invasive species**

**on the land. They would like to gather up the autumn olive and any other**

**species they could use to provide food for the elephants.**

**-Paul Boisvert, SNEFCI, held 2 woodscaping workshops in October. Marc**

**spoke at one of the workshops.**

**b. Annual Dinner**

**The board decided that they would like to present Bill Colburn with a**

**Distinguished Service Award for his 16 years of service to the**

**district.**

**The board also decided to include a new category for Urban Conservation Project**

**of the Year. The directors looked at two projects in Providece-1. Riverside Mills**

**Restoration Project in Olneyville and 2.The Rising Sun Mills Restoration Project.**

**The board unanimously voted for the Riverside Mills Restoration Project and**

**receiving this award will be the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council and**

**the City of Providence Parks Department. Our Farmer of the Year will go to**

**Gil and Sandie Barden.**

**c. Living on a Waterfront Workshops**

**Mike, Kate and Gina met with the East Providence Conservation Commission**

**about doing a workshop in their town. The scope of work was explained to the**

**commission and they endorsed the district working in their community. They**

**discussed possible sights for the workshop and there is the potential for projects**

**in the future. Kate has the contact information and has started developing the**

**workshop.**

**Marc has spoken to the Burrillville Conservation Commission and they have**

**endorsed the district holding a workshop in their town.**

**We are looking to hold these workshops in March/April 2007.**

#### **IV. Reports**

##### **a. Chair**

**Jean has been attending the watershed stewardship workshops. Jean is planning**

**to make contact with the new officials in Johnston.**

##### **b. NRCS**

**-They have spent a lot of time working on the Woonasquatucket River at the**

**Riverside Mills project.**

**-NRCS has done 1.2 million for farms and projects in the northern district.**

**-NRCS has decided to stay in the Warwick office and restructure the office set**

**up.**

**-October 11th is the good-bye party for Vicky. It will be held in South County on**

**Matunuck Beach Road.**

**c. Envirothon**

The committee had an meeting earlier in the day and have set up the forestry and wildlife workshops. Peter Stetson, a teacher from Coventry is setting up a website for Envirothon. Otter Brown is working on recruiting new schools to the program and a new brochure has just been developed.

**d. RC&D**

The council just finished a board training session led by Donna Hunter out of the national office. They worked on financial planning, their mission statement and how to set up the council.

**e. Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council**

They have been spending a large majority of their time working on the plantings along the bike path at the Riverside Mills project. They are in need of holding a fund raiser.

**f. RDC**

There will be a ½ day forum on Friday October 27th from 8-12

at the URI

Campus. Frank Coletta will be the keynote speaker on Celebrating Rural

Villages. Kevin Flynn will be speaking on the Land Use 2025. Please let Gerry know if anyone would like to attend.

g. RIFCO

Their annual dinner is Saturday, November 18th at Chelo's and they are looking for items for their silent auction.

V. Other

-Joanne Pacheco reported how she is working with Stu Nunnery on Farmquest.

This project is for elementary age children to come out to the farm and learn about where their food comes from. This is a pilot program and so far they have had 2 classes attend this program.

-It was decided not have a meeting in November.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:30 pm, Paul/Marc-unanimous.