Northern Rhode Island Conservation District

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#### **MEETING MINUTES**

December 2, 2009

6:00 PM

Paul called the meeting to order at 6:00.

#### In attendance were:

Directors: Paul Dolan, Eugene Pepper, Norm Hammond, Louie Vinagro, Dick Went; Associate Directors: Keith Rogers, Marc Tremblay.

Staff: Elizabeth Berg, Gina DeMarco, Ramona LeBlanc. NRCS: Justin Tuthill. Janet Hammond.

### I. Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the November 6, 2009 meeting: Gene/Dick, unanimous.

# **II. Financial Reports**

A motion was made to acknowledge receipt the October financial statements: Dick/Gene, unanimous.

#### **III. Old Business**

A. SWREP: Scituate High School's Environmental Science class is working with DEM/Forestry to develop a forestry management plan and to develop a walking corridor between the school and Manning Field.

SHS may participate in a USDA sponsored program title, "Get Wet" if enough students can be engaged. A minimum of 60 participants is required and the school's chemistry students would need to participate along with the environmental science class. A response from the chemistry teacher is expected soon. The program includes a teacher workshop, student instruction in which they learn to test water samples taken from their homes and a community event that would stress the importance of more advanced testing of drinking water. The school would keep the testing materials for future use.

- Gina is looking for alternate sites for the Water Festival.
- B. Lake Invasives Agreement: DEM has extended the completion date to 1/30/20 to allow adequate time to review plans and conduct stakeholder meetings.
- C. Outreach Agreement: Billboards were scheduled to be displayed beginning 11/30 in 3 locations.

Paul Boisvert completed a series of workshops under contract with

#### RIACD.

D. Ag Inventory: On the ground surveys were completed on 12/2/09. The location of livestock owners continues to be entered into a database. Targets for completed surveys cannot be met and a plan to divert funding for those surveys to the on the ground survey of two additional towns and a series of workshops that targets the livestock owners who received information packets is under review.

## IV. Reports

A. SCC: SRICD recently responded in writing to the proposed reorganization policy. A response from Eric Offenberg is needed.

B. NRCS: Summary reports distributed.

#### VI. New Business

- A. Seedling Sale: Compost bins and compost tea sources will be investigated and considered for inclusion in the 2010 Seedling Sale. The distribution dates will be 4/23 and 24.
- B. Three Directors will participate in a workshop which focuses on strategic development which is being held by the RI Foundation. They are N. Hammond, L. Vinagro and D. Went.
- C. URI Co-operative Extension is conducting a series of workshops entitled, "Exploring the Small Farm Dream" which is aimed at beginning farmers.

D. The 20th anniversary of Gina DeMarco's employment with NRICD was marked by the presentation of a commemorative vase.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:55: Dick/Gene, unanimous.