

Northern Rhode Island Conservation District

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MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2010

Chairman Paul Dolan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: Directors: Paul Dolan, Dick Went, Eugene Pepper, Louis L. Vinagro III; Associate Directors: Norm Hammond, Keith Rogers, Marc Tremblay, Joyce & John Holscher; Justin Tuthill, NRCS; District Manager Gina DeMarco; Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee.

I. Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2010 meeting: Dick/Keith, unanimous.

II. Financial Reports

A motion was made to acknowledge that the Board is in receipt of the financial report:

Dick/Gene, unanimous.

III. Old Business

A. SRWEP:

- Well workshop will be held on March 3, 2011 at Scituate High School
- Gina will conduct Get Wet! Program at Scituate High School on 1/12/11, 2/9/11, 3/2/11 and 3/9/11. The date of community presentation is to be determined
- Gina is working with Christopher Riely and Kate Bousquet to develop a brochure on forestry and watershed issues.
- Gina is also working to develop a changeable display board for use throughout the watershed.
- A packet is being developed for International Year of the Forest to be sent to landowners with more than 5 acres in the watershed.
- A photo contest for high school students will be held with a forestry theme.
- The Land Water Connection website has been updated.
- The children's book "Woody B. Woodland" has been written and printed.

B. Ag Inventory: Surveys have been completed and data entry is under way.

IV. Reports

A. Chair: Chair will comment as meeting continues.

B. SCC: Meeting to be held on January 12, 2011

C. NRCS: The Conservationist's Report was distributed.

- **There are a combined total of 89 applications in Providence County to date with a deadline of January 14, 2011. A workshop will be held at Laurel Grange on January 6, 2011 to explain NRCS programs. The application deadline for the next round is April 1, 2011.**
- **A training session for Toolkit and Protrax is tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2011 at NRCS.**
- **Funding in the existing Ag Inventory agreement may be re-allocated for additional tasks within the agreement.**
- **A new outreach agreement is being developed.**

D. RC & D:

- **Funding has been received to revise Soil Erosion & Sediment Control Handbook.**
- **A part time position has been created to provide assistance to the Urban Forester.**
- **The Coverts program has been funded.**

E. RDC: Nothing to report.

F. RIFCO: Estate planning workshop is scheduled for February 12, 2011 at the Radisson Airport Hotel.

G. RIACD:

- **Dick attended NACD meeting in Louisville in December and will attend the Annual Meeting in Nashville at the end of January 2011.**
- **Dick expects that a MOU between the Association and the Conservation Districts will be accepted at the next Association meeting.**
- **Dick would like to have the CD's represented at the State Technical Meetings.**
- **Small Farm Dream course at URI will be held again this year.**
- **The Association has re-submitted \$740,000 grant to fund a feasibility study and implementation of an equipment bank.**

H. RIRLA:

- **Westerly Packing is upgrading their facility.**
- **A new website has been developed and will feature farm profiles.**
- **The Annual Meeting will be held March 2011.**

I. Envirothon:

- **A membership meeting will be held at NRCS on January 13, 2011.**
- **A wildlife/aquatics workshop is scheduled for February, 12, 2011.**
- **The RI Envirothon will be held on May 20, 2011 at the Newport Boys & Girls Club.**

J. District Manager: Gina will attend the NACD meeting in Nashville.

V. New Business

A. Building:

1. Lease: A motion was made to accept the lease and agreement with the Division of Parks & Recreation, Department of Environmental Management. Dick/Keith; 3 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions (Paul Dolan and Eugene Pepper)

2. Contractors: A motion was made to accept the contractors recommended by the subcommittee. Dick/Keith; 3 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions (Paul Dolan and Eugene Pepper)

3. Paint: A motion was made to have staff select the interior paint color. Dick/Keith, unanimous.

B. New Opportunities with NRCS: National discussion with partners may result in a MOU which would have the Conservation Districts performing tasks for partners.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.