

Northern Rhode Island Conservation District

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MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2012

Vice-Chair Gene Pepper called meeting to order at 7:09.

**Present: Vice-Chair: Eugene Pepper; Directors: Keith Rogers, Dick
Went, Louis Vinagro III;**

**Associate Directors: Jean Lynch, Norm Hammond; District
Manager: Gina DeMarco,
Ramona LeBlanc, State Conservation Committee.**

1. Minutes:

- A motion was made to accept the minutes of the October and
November 2011 meetings: Dick/Louie; unanimous.**

2. Treasurer's Report:

- A motion was made that the report is on file: Dick/Louie; unanimous.**

3. Old Business:

A. SRWEP:

- **Gina reported that studies show high phosphorus levels in the regulating reservoir. A meeting will be held on January 5 to discuss how to address.**
- **With an agricultural theme for current year the business bulletin series will be aimed at agricultural producers. Tentative topics include nutrient loading, integrated pest management (IPM), soil erosion.**
- **Get Wet! program is underway for 3rd year at Scituate High School.**
- **Swamp Meadow Theater will create a play for 2012 Water Festival.**
- **Elementary school presentations are being scheduled.**
- **2012 Calendar has been distributed.**

B. NRCS Agreements:

1. Ag Inventory:

- **Updates for Gloucester and Scituate have been completed.**
- **Kate will be completing a 3 day GIS training the week of 1/9/12.**

2. Outreach:

- **Workshops held in December were well attended. Kate is conducting follow-up with NRI attendees.**
- **The next round of workshops will be hosted by area farms and will take place in Feb/March.**
- **Ag Techs are also completing follow-up for NRCS on CAP files.**

3. EWP:

- **SCC has been asked to act as sponsor on two EWP projects. Debris removal has been funded for 1) the Pocasset River and 2) the Wood, Pawcatuck and Queen Rivers.**

4. Waterways and Geese agreements are being focusing in ERICD.

5. SCC hired an engineering tech and a PT engineer to work on Engineering agreement.

4. New Business:

A. Building:

- **A new fuel tank is being installed on 1/5 or 6.**
- **Insulation is being installed the week of 1/9 and will be funded by SCC.**
- **Gene asked to have a discussion of front walkway added to February agenda.**

B. Seedling Sale:

- **Event will be held on April 20 and 21.**

C. Board Elections:

- **Gene accepted Keith Rogers letter of resignation with regret.**
- **A motion was made to appoint Jean Lynch pending completion of**

nomination papers: Dick/Louie; unanimous.

- **An election will be held on date of next Board meeting for Louie's seat since his term expired in November.**

5. Reports:

A. Chair: Not present.

B. SCC: Next meeting is 1/18/12 at 9:15.

C. NRCS: Not present.

D. RC&D: Not present.

E. RDC: Not present.

F. RIFCO:

- **Bill Fortune was elected President and Trish Wright Vice President.**
- **Woodland owners workshops will be held 1/28-2/18.**

G. RIACD:

- **Equipment Bank feasibility study is progressing. Over 80 responses to online survey have been received.**
- **Ag Partnership steering committee will be developing a budget for the \$100,000 Van Buren grant recently received.**
- **Dick is submitting a resolution to allow NRCS to obligate WHIP**

funding to public lands when it is part of a larger initiative.

- **NE Association Presidents are requesting a NE Watershed initiative to create more availability of funding for watersheds, estuaries and bays.**

H. RIRLA:

- **Association is examining question of what defines “RI Raised.”**

I. Envirothon:

- **Pete Stetson is writing a grant request to obtain a GPS unit for each participating school.**
- **Fundraising breakfast will be held on 4/7.**
- **A motion was made to issue a check for \$500 that is budgeted for Envirothon contribution: Dick/Louie; unanimous.**

6. Other:

- **A motion was made to pay an installment of \$200 to NACD for annual dues with an additional payment next quarter. Balance will be paid at end of fiscal year, pending availability of funds: Dick/Louie; unanimous.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.