

Northern RI Conservation District (NRICD) Board Meeting
Minutes
August 9, 2016

Present:

Executive Directors:

Jean Lynch Paul Dolan
Amie Parris Matt Tracy
Marc Tremblay Dick Went

NRCS

Leo Smock Randall

Associate Directors:

Paul Dolan
Ed Baker

NRICD Staff:

Gina DeMarco Kate Sayles
Michelle Place Molly Allard

Guests

Deb Went
Kevin Ormerod

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by Chairman Marc Tremblay

I. Minutes:

A. Motion by Dick/2nd by Jean to approve minutes.

II. Treasurers Report:

A. Presented by Michelle. Balance Sheet will be emailed to Board.

III. Old Business

A. Snake Den Farm –

1. Watering issues are better.
2. Contacted Champlin to see if could use remaining \$8,000 for storm windows
3. Mark Paulus wants 3 more acres
4. Wicked Tulips wantsto add 3.5 acres over the next few years. Parking was an issue.
5. Motion made by Amie/2nd by Dick to approve Kates proposal to Paulus

B. CIG (Conservation Innovation Grant)- 7 people are interested in participating. Figuring out the number of animals for manure calculator. Need to decide on what to do for pick up.

C. Ag Tech- Naomi is up and running on work on this grant.

D. Providence Water- Education Program

1. New year- Theme is “ground water”
2. Stormwater tour on September 1 @ 6:30 pm in Village of North Scituate.

- E. Fuss & O'Neill- City of Pawtucket has not yet decided on scope of work to be done.
- F. NRCS-
 - 1. Outreach- We will continue to use flat rate for all staffing except interns.
 - 1 Molly working on workshops in the fall. Molly will be attending 3 weeks of training in Nebraska in September.
 - 2 RCPP Soil Health - Kate B. and Chris Modisette are working on details of the final agreement and waiting for finals from DC for this project which has already been approved for funding.
 - 3 RCPP Conservation Plans- The three districts together under the RISCC have received an invitation for a full proposal. Staff will be working on this in the month ahead.
 - 4 EWP - Verbal approval to accept the roof truss company into the program. Awaiting written word.
- G. RIDEM Dexter/Hawkins Pond Invasive species control - Molly reported that all neighboring property owners were notified of treatment and treatment number one was completed. A second treatment will take place next month or so.

IV. Reports

- A. RI State Conservation Committee- working on strategic plan and funding issues for districts.
- B. Envirothon-RI came in 37th out of 51. Next theme will be watersheds.
- C. R C & D - Is holding farm energy and grant writing workshops.
- D. RIFCO- Accepted donation of 30 acres of land connected to existing RIFCO holding. Summer workshop.
- E. RIACD- Dick is running for the Vice President of NACD.
- F. District Manager – Gina distributed signage sheets for re-election Marc Tremblay, Matt Tracy and Dick Went
- G. NRCS- Leo passed out a written report to all present and accented highlights

V. New Business:

- A. Building maintenance-
 - 1. Asking John White for a painting quote for Hartford ave building.
- B. New Treasurer- Motion was made by Dick/2nd by Amie to elect Jean Lynch as Treasurer.
- C. RISCC fundraising- Allison Hamel an intern who is working with farmers has developed a “Go Fund Me” page to support RISCC. Issues and concerns were discussed with regards to NRICD’s involvement. Motion was made by Amie/2nd Dick to table the discussion
- D. Legislative outreach- Gina sent all Reps and Senators letter outlining our situation.
 - 1. Marc & Gina met with Representative Cale Keeble from Burrillville to discuss effects of grants being cut. He said options to secure funding are:
 - 1. Get legislative grant now
 - 2. Possible line item under State budget
 - 3. Line item under DEM budget
 - 2. Gina has list of Providence county Reps and Senators
- E. The Board presented Amie Parris a gift in recognition of her service to NRICD and we wished her well in her new adventure in England.

Adjourn: Amie Parris/Dick Went

Next meeting date will be Tuesday September 13, at 4:30 pm

