

Northern RI Conservation District (NRICD) Board Meeting

Minutes June 13, 2017

Present:

Executive Directors:

Marc Tremblay

Dick Went

Associate Director:

Jean Lynch

Paul Dolan

NRCS:

Chris Modisette

NRICD Staff:

Gina DeMarco

Molly Allard

Michelle Place

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

I. Minutes:

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

II. Treasurers Report:

A. Motion by Dick/2nd by Matt to accept financial reports presented by Michelle.

III. Old Business

A. Snake Den Farm –

1. Bio Blitz took place the weekend of June 9 at Snake Den Farm. A thank you will be sent to Ken Hopkins Who provided the chairs. And another to Melinda who provided the tent.
2. LASA grant- was awarded to SDF in the amount of \$17,800. It will begin August of 2017.
3. The decision to extend the lease at SDF was put on hold.

B. Scituate Reservoir Watershed- Education Program

1. Josh Angell will be cleaning out the sediment in the stormwater detention basin on Rockland Road.
2. Gina will contact Allison Hamel at DEM to request putting the stormwater basins on a regular maintenance program.
3. Stormwater decals were put on all the drains.
4. Calendars are ready to be printed.

C. NRCS-

1. Outreach-
 - a. June 29 – Pollinators in ERICD
 - b. July 19 – Walk in the woods in NRICD
 - c. August 19 – South Kingstown Land Trust
2. RCPP- all RCPP grants for Conservation Planning & Last Green Valley are waiting for signatures

3. EWP - Mayor Polisena from the Town of Johnston has renege on accepting the land that was identified by NRCS in this grant. Spoke to DEM, who also does not want to take ownership of land either. Contacted South Side Community Land Trust to see if interested in using land for raised beds for urban gardens. They will decide by June 19.

IV. Reports

- A. Chair- no report
- B. RI State Conservation Committee- There is proposed legislation to allow farmers to move 20% of farm land to renewable energy.
- C. NRCS- Chris Modisette presented Cassius report
- D. Envirothon-May 19 event at East Farm at URI
- E. R C & D - Small scale forestry is working with SRICD
- F. RIFCO- Summer twilight series will take place August 10
- G. RIACD- NE meeting August 13 in Burlington, Vermont
 - 1. Senator Whitehouse met with farmers to talk about FSMA (Food Safety Modification Act)
- H. NACD- Summer meeting in DeMoines Iowa.
- I. District Manager- Will be away the week of July 17.

V. New Business:

- A. Riverzedge Arts will be starting and afterschool program. It will be 10-15 hours total with a focus on stormwater. The money to run this is coming from Blackstone Watershed Council.
- B. Groundworks RI has applied for a \$5000 Educational Program in Providence to come to NRICD. The grant will be passed through RIACD.
- C. RI Woodland Partnership white sheet was presented on preventing the loss of RI forests. It was discussed, agreed and approved. Gina will contact Chris Reilly and show NRICD's support.
- D. Budget- Gina submitted proposed budget
 - 1. \$1500 to RIACD
 - 2. \$8000 on hold for possible copy machine
 - 3. \$5000 on hold for building upkeep. Especially exterior stairs.
 - 1 All are filed as accepted.

Adjourn: Dick/2nd by Jean at 6:10. The Board went into Executive Session.

There is no Board meeting in July and the next Board meeting will be Tuesday August 8, 2017 at Snake Den Farm. Rain location at Gina's house. 14 David Street, Greenville.