

Northern RI Conservation District (NRICD) Board Meeting

Minutes June 12, 2018

4:30 PM, 2283 Hartford Avenue, Johnston, RI

Present:

Executive Directors:

Marc Tremblay Matt Tracy

Dick Went Jean Lynch

Associate Directors: Ed Baker

NRICD Staff:

Gina DeMarco Kate Sayles

NRCS Staff:

Cassius Spears

I. Minutes: Accepted. Went/Lynch

II. Treasurer's Report – Profit and Loss and Balance sheets received.

III. Old Business

A. Building and Grounds –

1. Stairs will be completed in about 3 weeks or so.

B. Snake Den Farm – Kate Sayles provided a written report.

C. Scituate Reservoir Watershed- Education Program – All projects are on schedule. This month Gina and Molly met with Steve Soito and Rich Blodgett along with others from PW to discuss the expansion of the program to the end users in Providence (students).

A menu of options will be provided for future decisions on this topic.

Marc reported: Molly and Gina worked with a team of foresters &

Ponagansett teachers & students (Marc Tremblay, Paul Dolan, Christopher Riely and Bob Thurber. They are developing a forest management plan for the forested area surrounding Ponagansett High School. They are using the template from the American Tree Farm System.

D. NRCS- Cassius Spears submitted a written report.

- 1. Outreach- Three workshops are planned throughout the State.**
- 2. EWP –Waiting for appraisals**
- 3. RCPP Soil Health- Eric Boettger (trainer) is away for 4 months, Chris is providing guidance.**
- 4. RCPP - Regional Forestry- Lois is moving forward. Kate has begun work on this project. There is a lot of interest from land owners.**
- 5. RCPP Farm Conservation Plans – One plan complete. Putting this on hold until we use up the funds from NACD TA. Naomi Andrews is training Marina Capraro to take over the writing of Conservation Plans.**

E. Administrative Assistant Vacancy

1. Phone service – Board approved transferring phone system over to VOIP with Vonage to improve customer service. Lynch/Went

2. Book keeper. Board approved independent contractor Linda Marini for 90 day trial working on NRICD books. Requested reports that indicate the percent of the budget used quarterly. Lynch/Went

IV. New Business:

A. NACD Capacity – Dick Went reported on the Capacity workshop held in NY. He is hoping that improvements for the districts come out of the effort. He will be attending the NACD Summer meeting in

Virginia and requested that Gina or Molly attend the NACD Regional Meeting in PA in order to follow up on the NE Region Capacity Building project.

B. RIACD PL-566 and Bouthlette Engineering Project – Both on hold as we await NRCS decision to go forward. NRICD staff will be implementing both projects for RIACD.

C. Board Development – Dick and Gina met with Paulette Hamilton to discuss ideas on increasing involvement by others on the NRICD Board. Web improvement, inviting of Conservation Commission members were among the items discussed.

D. Fuss & O'Neill Spectacle Pond Project – grant application made the short list. \$20,000 is in the budget for NRICD to do outreach for F & O should the proposal be approved for funding.

E. Summer meeting – Thursday, July 12 at 5:30 at NRICD as well as a meeting for August will be planned.

Adjourn: Motion by Went/Lynch at 6:30 pm.