

Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District

2490 Main Road, Tiverton, RI 02878 – Phone (401)816-5667

July 12, 2011

7 PM

Chairman Walter Elwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present were Directors Walter Elwell, Suzanne Hourihan, & Dick Hart: Associate Director Steve Horowitz; NRCS Melissa Hayden; ERICD Project Manager Jessica Blackledge. Director Emerson Wildes arrived a little later.

I. Minutes: A motion was made to accept minutes as corrected. Dick Went to Dick Hart. Unanimous.

II. Reports:

A. Treasurer's: No motion made, therefore report not approved.

B. Project Manager: Written report was distributed. Air conditioner, new printer and new computer to be discussed later in meeting.

C. Chair: Asks members to be respectful of each other when someone is speaking. If this can be accomplished, he would be

willing to run for Chair again.

– Walter has attended two meetings on the proposed pathway near Little Compton's Wilber School.

–Attended the Sakonnet Preservation Society Annual Meeting.

–Eight Rod Farm- Has not been able to speak with the Tiverton Fire Chief as of yet.

C. Director Dick Hart: Went to see Mary Whele with Melissa Hayden of NRCS. Mary signed an agreement with NRCS.

-Went to URI to see what was going on there.

-Nanaquaket Pond- Town Council President is interested in having a study done on the pond.

D. Associate Director Steve Horowitz was thanked for his work in finding a new printer for the office. A new HP color all in one ink jet printer was purchased from Staples for \$323.00 including a supply of ink. They will get a rebate for turning in an old printer.

Steve tried to fix the old laptop computer but it could not be restored.

The Office was used by Paul Bruele for three Wednesdays. Melissa and Jessica are also using the office.

E. NRCS-Melissa Hayden's District Conservationist's report was distributed. Walter has not heard anything from Sakonnet Winery.

F. SCC- The report was distributed. There will be a meeting on July

20th. Emerson plans on attending. There was a meeting with Phou. The geese abatement project and several others were funded for another year at least.

G. RIACD- No meeting has been held.

III. Old Business

Budget-

We still don't know how much money we will receive from the State for the next fiscal year. By the Aug. meeting more information should be available. Ramona would like Jessica paid through ERICD for Ag. Technician work. Bring this up again in Aug. when Ramona is here. Emerson wondered how much money Eastern can make from Jessica's work. Steve asked if there was someplace else an office could be where space would be free or less expensive. Walter and Dick explained that they had thought of this before and had not found any place better than what we have now. If there was such a place, they would be interested to investigate it.

Aquaculture at Nanaquaket Pond- Dick reported the applicant has withdrawn his application. There may be another applicant who would be working on a smaller scale. Walter asked Dick that if the Tiverton Council made a committee to look into the status of Nanaquaket Pond, would he be interested in representing ERICD on

the committee. Dick didn't want to be committed to going to the meetings. Em suggested that if Tiverton had a meeting, Dick might go and then decide if he could represent us.

Annual Meeting – Last year's AM was early Nov. Suzanne made a motion to have an Annual Meeting about the same time a 2010. Em Seconded. Unanimous. Dick suggested asking Tom Sandham about putting on a meal someplace central to the District. Walter made a committee of Em, Ron and Walter.

Equipment Bank Grant – Nothing new to report.

Board Training – Will be on website. It is up to Board members to use it or not.

IV. New Business

Bills were paid.

National grid - 22.16

RI State Conservation Committee for Ramona- 73.42

Directors Stipends – Ron-\$80.00, Suzanne – 40.00, Em, Dick & Walter- 120.00 each.

Jessica Blackledge-mileage – 102.15

Nomination papers – Walter and Dick's are in. Suzanne, Emerson & Ron are working on it.

Election of Chair – Suzanne moved to have Walter stay as Chair. Em Second. Em called the motion. Unanimous.

Jessica, as Project Manager of ERICD, is asking for a new computer for ERICD. She thinks a laptop would meet the needs of any ERICD employees needs best. Steve reported that a decent computer with 3 year warrantee would be 500.00 or more. Suzanne moved to buy a laptop for up to \$600.00. Em second. Unanimous. Steve will work with Jessica on this.

Air Conditioner – Suzanne made the motion to put the air conditioner in the window. Em seconded. Unanimous. Em will put it in in a few days.

Steve was given rewards card, tax exempt letter and check to buy a new computer.

Geese – Dick reported there may be as many as 75 in gut. People are feeding and throwing in plastic bags. He had picked up a sign in Canada about NOT feeding the geese. He asked if Jessica would look into having signs made for RI. Walter asked her to do this when she got back from vacation.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:43 PM