

**SOUTHERN RHODE ISLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD JUNE 26, 2017
AT THE URI MASTER GARDENER FIELD HOUSE**

Present: Antonia Bryson, Chair; Harvey Buford, Treasurer; Carl Sawyer, Secretary; Rudi Hempe, Director; Melissa Hayden, NRCS District Conservationist; Kate Bousquet, District Manager.

I. Antonia called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the May 22, 2017 meeting were approved (Rudi, Harvey, unanimous).

III. Reports - written reports are filed with the minutes.

- A. **Financial Statement:** Kate went over a written Treasurer's Report/Financial Statement.
- B. **NRCS Report:** Melissa went over a written report of NRCS activities in the District.
- C. **District Manager's Report:** Kate went over her written report. A forestry outreach workshop in partnership with RI RC&D and the South Kingstown Land Trust is scheduled for August 19 at the Land Trust's Browning Woods property.

IV. Old Business

- A. **Conservationist Award Nominations for 2017 / Summer Meeting Schedule:** Following discussion, two awardees were selected and approved by a vote (Rudi, Harvey, unanimous). It was decided to forego holding meetings at cooperators' properties this summer.

At this point, Antonia moved item V. A. ahead in the agenda.

V. New Business

- A. **Presentation of FY2018 Budget:** Kate provided a printout of the proposed FY2018 budget. Following discussion, the budget was approved as presented (Rudi, Antonia, unanimous).

Agenda resumed with item IV. B.

IV. Old Business

- B. **Further Discussion:** Discussion of Outreach to Constituents: Antonia reported that she, Kate and Carl had met prior to this meeting to discuss strategy and review photos of District activities. Antonia provided samples of surveys conducted by two Conservation Districts. It was decided that we should first continue to develop a Powerpoint presentation that could be easily modified for different audiences. Antonia, Kate and Carl will continue to work on presentation.

At 4:55 PM, a motion was approved to go into Executive Session (Rudi, Harvey, unanimous).

The Executive Session ended at 5:18 PM. (Rudi, Harvey, unanimous).

IV. Old Business

- C. **Other:** None.

V. New Business

- B **Other:** Kate noted that she had received an email from Kristen Castrotaro, President of the RI Ag Council, soliciting help in manning the Ag Council display at the Washington County Fair. Carl agreed to get details from Kristen and email board members.

Meeting adjourned at 5:56PM

The next meeting will be held on July 24, 2017, at 4 PM at the URI East Farm Master Gardener Field House.

Minutes submitted by Carl Sawyer, Secretary, SRICD