

Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.
139 Wolf Den Road Brooklyn CT 06234 Phone (860)774-0224 ext 4

Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc.
Monday January 7, 2008
1:00-3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

The Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc. was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President John Guskowski.

Present: John Guskowski, WLA, President	Rebecca Augur, CRCOG, Vice President
Norma O'Leary, ECCD, Secretary	Elizabeth Rogers, NRCS
Elaine Sych, ERT	Amanda Fargo-Johnson, ERT
Tom Seidel, SCCOG Council Member	Lee Szruba, TRBP, Council member
Wini Olson, CRERPA, Council Member	Rita Reiss, NECCOG, Council member

Secretary's Report:

Motion: To approve the minutes of 10/29/07

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Lee Szruba

Voted: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To accept Treasurer's report as submitted

Motion Made by: Wini Olson

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team:

Elaine Sych submitted a written report and discussed the status of requested and conducted reviews. This month a review will be conducted in Wallingford, also several reports have been completed.

Greenways:

South Branch of the Park River (SBPR): Proposals to construct the first phase of the trail are being accepted by NRCS. A bid opening is scheduled for Wednesday January 16th at 11:00 in the NRCS state office.

Greenway Grant Proposal: John Guskowski, Elaine Sych and Liz Rogers will be meeting with representatives from The Green Valley Institute, Northeast Council of Governments and the Towns of Putnam and Killingly on January 10th to discuss the possibility of partnering on a grant to construct a trail. The trail will complete a link of the east coast greenway between the two towns.

Livable Communities:

Tour des Farms: The tentative date for next year's ride is September 13th. A committee meeting will be scheduled in the next few months.

LULA: The Council has received a \$35,000 grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) for LULA. The grant money will be used to leverage other funds to conduct two LULA sessions in the spring of 2008.

Middletown Agriculture Viability Grant: Middletown Project: Rebecca Augur reported the final report is being completed. She will check on the status of the final payment to RC&D for the work the Council completed on the project last winter.

Agriculture Committee:

Woodstock Feasibility Study: Wright-Pierce is working on a survey to find out the availability of organic solid waste for a possible composting facility in Woodstock. Amanda Fargo-Johnson is developing a nutrient management website as part of a 319 grant.

Willingness to Pay Survey and Woodstock Feasibility Study: The study has been completed. The Council is waiting on the final payment from the town of Thompson to close out the grant.

Fall workshops: The RC&D Council and GVI partnered on a series of workshops on land use issues. The last of these very well attended workshops was held on November 28th. The focus of the workshop was the transfer of development rights.

Council on Soil and Water: no report

New Business:

John Guskowski

- **Request for funding from ERT Program: Vernal Pool Study**

Dr. Deborah Lee, Secretary, Eastford Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission presented a funding request from the ERT special projects fund to conduct a vernal pool study in the town of Eastford.

Motion: To recommend acceptance of the request to the ERT subcommittee

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

- **Annual Plan:** Norma O'Leary, Lee Szruba, and Liz Rogers will develop a draft annual plan

- **Annual Meeting:** Elaine Sych, John Guskowski, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Tom Seidel and Liz Rogers will work on the annual meeting

- **Nation Association dues \$450.00**

Motion: To pay the Nation Association dues \$450.00

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Old business:

- **Council Liability Insurance, quote:** John Guskowski will get insurance quotes

- **National Leadership Meeting, February 2008:** John Guskowski and Amanda Fargo-Johnson will attend the meeting.

- **December meeting with Kings Mark:** Norma O'Leary and Rebecca Augur gave a meeting update. It was an enjoyable evening with the King's Mark Council

- **New England Association of RC&D Fall Conference 2008, CT**

The next planning meeting for the fall conference is scheduled 11:00 AM on the day of the next council meeting.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 10, at the Brooklyn RC&D office.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm