



Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

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John Guskowski, President
Rebecca Augur, Vice President
Barbara Kelly, Treasurer
Norma O'Leary, Secretary

Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc.
Monday March 17, 2008
1:00-3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

The Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc. was called to order at 1:150 p.m. by President John Guskowski.

Present: John Guskowski, WLA, President
Norma O'Leary, ECCD, Secretary
Elaine Sych, ERT
Wini Olson, CRERPA, Council Member
Jana Butts, WINCOG, Council Member

Rebecca Augur, CRCOG, Vice President
Elizabeth Rogers, NRCS
Amanda Fargo-Johnson, ERT
Rita Reiss, NECCOG, Council member
Barbara Kelly, NCCD, Treasurer

Secretary's Report:

Motion: To approve the minutes of 01/07/08
Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary
Seconded by: Rebecca Augur
Voted: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To accept Treasurer's report for audit
Motion Made by: Jana Butts
Seconded by: Wini Olson
Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team:

Elaine Sych submitted a written report and discussed the status of requested and conducted reviews. The ERT subcommittee is working on the draft budget for FY09. Elaine requested a review of the ERT personnel policy; it has been several years since the last review.

Greenways:

South Branch of the Park River (SBPR): The ground breaking ceremony for the SBPR is scheduled for May 9th at 2:30 at the corner of Nilan Street and Brookfield Avenue.

Motion: To approve the expenditure of up to \$400.00 on the groundbreaking ceremony and to donate the shovels used in the ceremony to Knox Park after the groundbreaking.

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur
Seconded by: Jana Butts
Voted: Motion passed

Livable Communities:

Tour des Farms: The next TDF will be September 20th in Simsbury. The committee is working with the Simsbury Land Trust.

LULA: There will be two LULA sessions held this spring in Fairfield County and one held this fall with the town of Lebanon.

Middletown Agriculture Viability Grant: Middletown Project: Rebecca Augur submitted the final invoice and the council should receive payment in the next few weeks.

Green Valley Institute (GVI) request for funding: The GVI would like to continue to partner with the council on a series of land use workshops that started with the three very successful workshops that were conducted last fall. The workshops scheduled for this spring are: May 8th Smart Zoning Techniques-The Tale of two Grotons and on May 21st Wastewater Treatment Alternatives and Smart Growth.

Motion: To approve the expenditure of up to \$1,500.00 to conduct the workshops

Motion Made by: Jana Butts

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

Agriculture Committee:

Woodstock Marketing/Business Plan: On March 24th the steering committee for the Woodstock 319 project will be interviewing a consultant interested in developing the business and marketing plan.

Woodstock Food Waste Survey: Wright-Pierce has completed a survey to find out the availability of organic solid waste for a possible composting facility in Woodstock. Amanda Fargo-Johnson completed the development of a nutrient management website as part of the 319 grant. The final report has been completed and submitted to DEP.

Woodstock Grant Resolution: A Certified Resolution and Certification needs to be submitted to DEP in order for the RC&D Council and DEP to enter into contracts and agreements.

Motion: To sign a Certified Resolution and Certification in order to enter into contracts and agreements with DEP and to authorize council president John Guszkowski to sign contracts and agreements with DEP on behalf of the RC&D Council.

Motion Made by: Barbara Kelly

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Apply Soil and Water Conservation (SWCS) Grant for Celebrating Agriculture: Liz Rogers discussed the opportunity to apply for a \$500.00 SWCS grant to offset some of the cost for publicity for the Celebrating Agriculture event.

Motion: To apply for a \$500.00 grant from SWCS for Celebrating Agriculture

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Barbara Kelly

Voted: Motion passed

North Canaan 319 Grant: DEP is working on the contracts for the North Canaan Nutrient management – Dairy Manure composting grant \$144,796.

Council on Soil and Water: Barbara Kelly reported that the Council on Soil and Water is working with the Conservation Districts to develop a proposal to submit to DEP for Stormwater Pollution Plan Reviews. The proposal will be for the review of the erosion and sedimentation control measures for stormwater control to insure compliance with The Stormwater Pollution Plans required by DEP on developments that have a minimum of five acres of disturbance.

Barbara, thanked Suellen Kozey McCuin for her assistance with the New England RC&D fall conference.

New Business:

John Guszkowski

- **Award Nominations/Annual Meeting:** The following were presented for consideration for award recipients at the annual RC&D meeting in June: Pat Williams, Hartford Housing Authority for SBPR, Charmaine Crag, Knox Park for SBPR, Keith Rogers for TDF and Joe Wettemann for the Woodstock Nutrient Management project. Please bring additional recommendations to the next council meeting.
- **Annual Meeting funding request:** The council will allocate funds to keep the registration fee for the annual meeting in the \$15 to \$20 range.

- **Board Development and Outreach:** The council will discuss this issue at a future meeting
- **New England Association Business Meeting:** John Guskowski will attend the meeting scheduled for March 22nd in Portland Maine.

Old business:

- **New England Association of RC&D Fall Conference 2008, CT:** The committee met before the council meeting and the planning is going well.
- **Council Liability Insurance, quote;** John Guskowski will follow up
- **National Leadership Meeting, February 2008:** John Guskowski, Elaine Sych and Amanda Fargo-Johnson attended the meeting. The main focus of the meeting was developing a strategy to restore the RC&D budget which is proposed to be zeroed out next fiscal year.
- **Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting is scheduled for June 23rd
- **Annual Plan:** the draft annual plan for 2008-2009 was handed out for review.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for April 28th, at the Brooklyn RC&D office. The New England Association of RC&D Fall Conference committee will meet at 11:00 on the 28th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm