



Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.
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Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc.
Monday April 23, 2007
1:00-2:30 PM
Meeting Minutes

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

Present: John Guszowski, President
Norma O'Leary, Secretary
Mark Paquette, WINCOG
Tom Seidel, Council Member

Rebecca Augur, CRCOG, Vice President
Wini Olson, Council Member
Elizabeth Rogers, NRCS
Elaine Sych, ERT

Secretary's Report:

Motion: To approve the minutes of 02/05/07

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Motion: To accept Treasurer's report as submitted

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur

Seconded by: Wini Olson

Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team:

Elaine Sych submitted a written report. Elaine is researching the reprinting of "Land Use Organizations Available to Municipalities and Land Owners." The ERT budget for FY08 is being finalized. A brokerage CD Account has been opened at New Alliance bank for the ERT.

Motion: To authorize Treasurer Barbara Kelly to transfer funds from matured CDs to the brokerage account and to transfer funds to that account in excess of \$100,000 from the ERT savings account.

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur

Seconded by: Tom Seidel

Voted: Motion passed

Greenways:

SPBR: DEP has informed the council that a title search will be required on the DEP property along the proposed trail along the South Branch of the Park River. The DEP grant can be used to fund the title search.

Motion: To authorize up to \$5,000 for the title search

Motion Made by: Tom Seidel

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

DEP will be developing a new contract with the RC&D Council instead of granting a contract extension for the current grant contract. The contract amount will be \$301,600.47.

Motion: To enter into a contract with DEP for the SBPR

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

Livable Communities:

Tour des Farms: This year's Tour des Farms will be September 29th in Glastonbury.

LULA: The spring LULA session started on April 20th at the Northeast Council of Governments office.

Middletown Agriculture Viability Grant: RC&D has completed a document that identifies the Federal and state farmland preservation programs and funding sources, private funding sources for farmland preservation and creative land acquisition strategies. The next step is to attend several meetings with local farmers and other stakeholders. These meeting will be held in the next few months.

Agriculture Committee:

Woodstock Feasibility Study: Wright-Pierce is working on the feasibility study. The next project meeting is scheduled for 4/25 at the Woodstock town hall.

Willingness to Pay Survey: The survey forms have been mailed to residents in Woodstock, Brooklyn, and Thompson and Killingly.

Woodstock Feasibility Study: Reena Shaw, Agricultural Economist, NRCS has completed the final draft of the project. A meeting will be held on May 16th to review the draft

Council on Soil and Water:

The next meeting is scheduled for May 3rd. Barbara Kelly will discuss reprinting "Land Use Organizations Available to Municipalities and Land Owners."

New Business:

319 Grant DEP, Woodstock Nutrient Management Project, \$14,783.94

Motion: To enter into a contract with DEP for the Woodstock Nutrient Management Project,

Motion Made by: Rebecca Augur

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

RC&D Council Membership, Working Lands Alliance

Motion: To accept Working Lands Alliance as a RC&D Council member

Motion Made by: Tom Seidel

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

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

The conference will be held in Eastern CT in October of 2008. Dates and location will be selected by October 2007. A committee consisting of: John Guskowski, Elaine Sych, Liz Rogers and other interested council members will work on the meeting.

New England Association of RC&D 2007 fall Conference

October 18-20, Rhode Island

The meeting will be held in Narragansett, RI. Council members are encouraged to attend.

The Eastern CT RC&D Council was accepted into the National Association of RC&D's Circle of Diamonds Program. The circle of Diamonds Program provides recognition to high achieving councils.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting will be held on June 25th at the Lebanon Historical Society Museum. The meeting will include a short business meeting, awards ceremony, tour of the museum and a tour of Graywall Farms. The registration fee will be \$15.00

Motion: To approve up to \$300.00 for annual meeting expenses.

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Motion: Present the following with awards at the annual meeting:

Margo Wallace, STC, NRCS, for support to the RC&D program

Gerald Maine, Principal Planner, Hartford, for work on the South Branch of the Park River

The Green Valley Institute, for leadership in Greenways initiatives

Robin Chesmer, Graywall Farms, for promoting the economic importance of CT agriculture

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Rebecca Augur

Voted: Motion passed

Draft, 2007-2008 Annual Plan: the draft annual plan was submitted for review

March 24, 2007 NE Association of RC&D Business meeting: Norma provided an update on the business meeting.

The next council meeting will be The Annual meeting, June 25th, 12:00, Lebanon Historical Society Museum.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30