



Eastern Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

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*John Guskowski, President
Phil Chester, Vice President
Barbara Kelly, Treasurer
Margot Burns, Secretary*

Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council Monday, October 25, 2010 12:20 pm-2:40 pm Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Eastern Connecticut RC&D Council, Inc. was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by President John Guskowski.

Present: John Guskowski, WLA, President	Barbara Kelly, NCCD, Treasurer
Phil Chester, Lebanon, V. President	Elizabeth Rogers, NRCS
Andrew Hascoe, Sustainable CT Concepts	Margot Burns, CRERPA, Secretary
Elaine Sych, ERT	Amanda Fargo-Johnson, ERT
Tom ODell, CRCCD	Norma O'Leary, ECCD
Wini Olsen, Essex Land Trust	Paula Stahl, GVI
Liz Swenson, Ct Farm Energy	Norman St. Jean, RD
David Brown, RD	John Rissler, NRCS
Jim Larkin, NECCOG	Kerry Nielson, East Hampton

NRCS Report: John Rissler, Acting STC

John Rissler shared copies of NRCS-Connecticut "At-A-Glance" with the Council. He also reported that Jay Mar the New State Conservationist for CT will start on November 1st.

Sustainable CT Concepts, Andrew Hascoe

Andrew gave an overview of the Sustainable CT Concepts program. The Council requested more information on the project and their potential role in the project.

Secretary's Report:

Motion: To approve the minutes of 08 /09/10 with corrections

Motion Made by: Norma O'Leary

Seconded by: Paula Stahl

Voted: Motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Barbara Kelly reported the external financial book review and form 990 have been completed.

Motion: to receive the monthly report (handed out) and place on file

Motion Made by: Paula Stahl

Seconded by: Norma O'Leary

Voted: Motion passed

Environmental Review Team:

Elaine handed out a program update and discussed several projects. The Bolton Heritage Farm Report has been completed.

Greenways Committee : Margot Burns

The Greenway Committee met on 9/17 with Eric Hammerling, CT Forests and Parks, Margaret Miner, Rivers Alliance, and Mark Goetz, NECCOG and the State's Geospatial Information Systems Council Cadastral Framework Data Subcommittee, Data Inventory, and Assessment Working Group to discuss partnering on statewide GIS mapping of greenway and blue ways; how the conservation community could best support and enhance the State's trails and open space mapping effort; and if/how it could drive the effort to create a State wide cadastre to help with the greenway/blueway and conservation planning efforts of the State's many NGO's and government agencies.

Livable Communities: Elaine Sych

The committee met on 9/15 and is working on a proposal for a CT Dept of Agriculture Grant for Agricultural Viability to develop a survey for Food Service Directors.

Agriculture Committee: Phil Chester

The committee met on 9/7 and focused on the area plan, BMP guide for livestock zoning and the Brother's Quality environmental study. The next meeting is scheduled for 11/15 and the focus will be on the recently funded livestock zoning project.

CT Farm Energy Program: Amanda Johnson

Amanda submitted a written report of the program activities and discussed the BMP manual. Two new grant writers have been hired on an as needed basis to assist with the CT Farm Energy program.

Council on Soil and Water: Barbara Kelly

The Council on Soil and Water is addressing funding issues with the state.

Partner Update:

John Rissler discussed the partnership meeting that will be held on November 3rd. All are invited to attend

New Business**John Guskowski**

- **Policy and Plan of Work Review**
The Council reviewed the annual plan and board policies. The policy committee will review and update the Competitive Bidding Policy as requested for the next meeting. All other policies and plan of work items were reviewed and accepted.
- **Holiday meeting w/King's Mark**
King's Mark RC&D Council will be invited to join us for the next Council Meeting which is scheduled for December 13th at The Tolland Agricultural Center.
- **Sponsorship Request: WLA Annual Meeting**
- **Motion:** to be a \$50 table sponsor at the annual meeting
- **Motion Made by:** Tom ODell
- **Seconded by:** Phil Chester
- **Voted:** Motion passed
- **Sponsorship Request: SWCS Winter Conference**
- **Motion:** to sponsor the conference at the \$250 level
- **Motion Made by:** Margot Burns
- **Seconded by:** Norma O'Leary
- **Voted:** Motion passed

Old business

- **CSA Workshop:**
On hold
- **Soil Health Workshop-Ray Covino:**
Ray is working on the details for the workshop

