



CONNECTICUT

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT
1066 Saybrook Road
Haddam, Connecticut 06438

*John Guskowski, President
Judy Rondeau, Vice President
Barbara Kelly, Treasurer
Margot Burns, Secretary*

Meeting Minutes
Thursday 02/06/18, 12:30 – 3:30pm
Essex Town Hall

Board Members in Attendance: John Guskowski, Margot Burns, Lynne Pike DiSanto, Mark Goetz, Jim Sipperly, Judy Rondeau, Rebecca Andreucci, Aaron Budris, Lois Bruinooge, Rick Huntley, Jim Costello, Justin LaFountain

Board Members not in Attendance Matt Fulda, MaryEllen Kowalewski, Mark Nielsen, Jim Larkin, Barbara Kelly, Francis Pickering

Other: Jeanne Davies, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Andrea Peres, Nancy Alexander

John Guskowski called the meeting to order at 1:00pm and noted that there was a quorum.

The meeting began with a board development workshop with consultant Nancy Alexander. Discussion concerned our mission and responsibilities of the board of directors. These included fiduciary, strategic, policy, and duties oversight as well as duty of care, duty of loyalty, and duty of obedience.

Secretary's Report

Motion: To accept the meeting minutes of 11/16/17.

Motion made by: Jim Costello

Seconded by: Lynne Pike DiSanto

Voted: Motion passed. Abstained Aaron Budris, Jim Sipperly, Justin LaFountain

President's Report:

Discussion concerned the reinstatement of funding in the current 2 year state budget through the newly created Passport to the Parks for the ERT program, Council of Soil and Water, and the Connecticut Conservation Districts. It was not known how much funding there will be or when it will become available.

Treasurer's Report:

Considerations need to be made in regards to staff hours, the existing budget, and available funding opportunities and acquired grants. Known grant opportunities include RBGP, EPA EE Grant, 5% day Whole Foods, Lego, and Paul Newman Foundation.

Motion: To sign the contract with the State of Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture for \$40,000 grant to update the Zoning Regulations and Ordinances for Livestock Guide.

Motion made by: Jim Costello

Seconded by: Judy Rondeau

Voted: Motion passed unanimously

Tour de Farms Report:

Tour de Farms is being planned for Columbus Day weekend on October 6th, 2018 at the White Memorial Conservation Center in Litchfield. Sponsorship strategy is being developed.

Dec. 12th Conference Call Meeting Minutes Approval:

Motion: To approve the minutes for the conference call meeting of Nov. 16th.

Motion made by: Jim Costello

Seconded by: Rebecca Andreucci

Voted: Motion passed. Abstained: Margot Burns; Rick Huntly; and Justin LaFountain.

CACEE project Update:

Discussion concerned the historic and brownfield characteristics of the Scovil building, the fact that previous helpful studies have been done, and that the property is owned by the State of Connecticut.

Motion: To designate the Scovil Factory in Higganum center, Haddam, as the property the Council would like to have the Conway School study for the CACEE project USDA Rural Development Grant (RBDG).

Motion made by: John Guskowski

Seconded by: Jim Sipperly

Voted: Motion passed. Abstained Rick Huntly and Justin LaFountain

Ag Programs

The next Soil Health Workshop will be held in Litchfield County in April. There was a November quarterly Farm Energy Partner Meeting & Tour in November at Trifecta Ecosystem, Inc. in Meriden, CT. and a January 2018 Farm Energy Workshop with the Northwest Conservation District in Torrington, CT. There will be an open house and tour in the spring for the *Collins Farm Compost Heat Recovery Program*. Recently completed REAP energy projects include Bishop's Orchards in Guilford, Laurel Brook Farm, East Canaan, Elm Farm in Woodstock, and Killam & Bassette Farmstead, in Glastonbury.

A doodle pole will be sent out for time of day for the year's meeting schedule.

The annual meeting will be the 13th or 14th of June at Allen Hill Tree Farm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40

Motion: Jim Sipperly

Seconded by: Lynn Pike DiSanto

Respectfully Submitted: Margot Burns, Secretary