Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday 09/18/18, 3:30 – 5:00pm  
RC&D Office, 1066 Saybrook Rd., Haddam, CT

Board Members in Attendance: John Guszkowski, Margot Burns, Rick Huntley, Justin LaFountain, Lynne Pike DiSanto, Joanna Shapiro, Judy Rondeau, Mark Goetz, Jim Costello, Rosa Brown, Aaron Budris  
Board Members not in Attendance: Jim Sipperly, Matt Fulda, Mark Nielsen, Jim Larkin, Lois Bruinooge, Rebecca Andreucci  
Other: Jeanne Davies, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Andrea Peres

John Guszkowski called the meeting to order at 3:34pm and noted that there was a quorum.

Secretary’s Report:
Motion: To accept the August 21, 2018 meeting minutes as presented.  
Motion made by: Jim Costello  
Seconded by: Rich Huntley  
Voted: Motion passed unanimously

President’s Report:  
John reported on a positive meeting with stake holders and potential partners concerning the airline trail grant proposal.

Financial Report:  
Jeanne reported that the distributed P&L statement does not include the $10,000 from Patagonia for help with labor costs in running the no till equipment hub or labor costs for tour des farms.

Motion: To file the P&L statement.  
Motion made by: Jim Costello  
Seconded by: Rick Huntley  
Voted: Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw Committee Report:  
Jeanne provided a draft of the bylaws amended by the committee and asked that comments be provided by mid-October so the amendments can be voted on in December. Amendments included: addition of how officers will be elected, an indemnification section, a definition of the executive director position.
Contact Committee Report:
The contract committee would like comments so that it may be voted on in committee in November or December.

Membership Committee Report:
They have reached out to a possible new member and are waiting for a response from him.

Tour des Farms:
Plans, needs, and scheduling for Tour des Farms were discussed. 50 riders were registered as of this meeting date.

ERT Report:
Discussion concerned the completion of the Durham Open Space Management Plan, adding ERT report types to the program that are different than the current/past resource inventory approach. This management plan could be used as a model for others.

CACEE Task Force Report:
Members of the task force met with the town of Haddam and they are cautiously optimistic that our interests overlap with theirs. A meeting needs to be scheduled with DOT concerning their plans with the property. A visit to Hope and Main in Warren, RI, a food business incubator was also discussed.

***Have a note concerning the CT Rural Community Development Corp?

Airline Trail Project:
John introduced the project that could enhance the economic driver ability of the existing airline trail – Towns would need to request the study as an ERT for it to qualify as an ERT project.

Agricultural Programs:
Jeanne reported on the upcoming SCRCOG project for a regional rural and urban agriculture collaborative. The first meeting is scheduled for Oct. 25th. Amanda reported that 2 roller crimpers had arrived and that there would be a 2nd training day on Oct. 24th for the soil health equipment. There are also 18 free farm assessments available with the CT Farm Energy Geothermal Pilot Program.

Other Business:
Andrea presented a 10 Reasons to give flyer/mailer for comment.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting at 4:58.
Motion made by: Rick Huntley
Seconded by: Jim Costello
Voted: Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Margot Burns, Secretary