



CONNECTICUT

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

1066 Saybrook Road

Haddam, Connecticut 06438

John Guszowski, President
Judy Rondeau, Vice President
Justin LaFountain, Treasurer
Margot Burns, Secretary

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 5/25/21, 3:30-5:30AM
CT RC&D Zoom Room

Board Members in Attendance: John Guszowski, Margot Burns, Judy Rondeau, Rosa Browne, Rick Huntley, Lois Bruinooge, Chris Sullivan, Taijah Anderson, Aaron Budris, Jim Sipperly, Jim Larkin, Justin LaFountain, Mark Hoover, Lynne Pike DiSanto, Joanna Shapiro

Board Members not in Attendance Jane Brawerman, Rebecca Andreucci

Other: Jeanne Davies, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Jillian Shea, Tyra Penn-Gesek

John Guszowski called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM and noted that there was a quorum.

Secretary's Report:

Discussion included an adding of an e to Rosa Browne's name and a correction to the spelling of Lynne Pike DiSanto.

Motion: To approve the minutes 3/2/21.

Motion made by: Rick Huntley

Seconded by: Rosa Browne

Voted: Approved, abstention by Jim Sipperly, Justin LaFountain, Mark Hoover, Aaron Budris, and Lynne Pike DiSanto.

President Report:

John introduced Tyra Penn-Gesek, Director of Planning and Development for the Town of Thompson who has been working with Jeanne on the Air Line Trail ERT, for approval to become a member at large.

Motion: To approve Tyra Penn-Gesek as a board member at-large.

Motion made by: Jim Sipperly

Seconded by: Rick Huntley

Voted: Unanimously

John also reported that the National RC&D located in Kansas is in need of an Executive Director and that he and Jeanne have been attending the meetings of the Mid-Atlantic RC&D.

Continuity Planning:

In anticipation of Jeanne's planned retirement within the next year or two the Governance and Finance Committee will be working with Jeanne to focus on the strengths of our current programs and look to hiring a grants and operations manager and an environmental programs manager and determine the future responsibilities of the Governance and Finance Committee, as well as the rest of the board.

Financial Report:

Next year's budget was reviewed for adoption at the annual meeting.

Program Updates:

Amanda reported on all the CT RC&D agricultural programs including the Farm Energy audit program for EnSave. Information about the agricultural programs can be found here <https://ctracd.org/programs/>.

Jeanne gave a report on the youth education, rural community, and environmental programs. Information about these programs can also be found here <https://ctracd.org/programs/>.

DE&I Training Process for Council – Policy Development

Jillian reported that the goal of the training is to have CT RC&D become a transformational organization in this regard and that the training is currently a year out for scheduling purposes with Thought Partner Solutions.

Annual Work Plan:

Our current work plan is for 3 years but any comments can be sent to Jeanne.

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting is scheduled for 6/10/21 at the Ct River Museum. Judy, Aaron, and Lynne volunteered to be on the nominating and scholarship committee.

Other Business:

Tyra reported on the Thompson recreational trail camp and thoughts about possible youth along the Airline Trail programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43.

Respectfully submitted,
Margot Burns, Secretary