



Minutes of the CT Greenways Council Meeting 3/10/14

Council Members (X In attendance)

X Lois Bruinooge - Deputy Executive Director, The Last Green Valley

X Jan Collins - CT Horse Council

X Bob Dickinson – Appalachian Mountain Club

X Bruce Donald – President of Farmington Valley Heritage Trails Council

X Tracy Gionfriddo - Northeast Utilities – acting Secretary

David Gumbart – Town of Killingworth; The Nature Conservancy; CT Forest & Park Assoc.

X Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.

X William D. O'Neill - East Coast Greenway Alliance

X (on phone) Lisa Fernandez – Farmington River

X (on phone) Jason Vincent – Norwich Community Development Authority

X Laurie Giannotti (DEEP Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member

X (on phone) Katherine Rattan (DOT Non-Motorized Transportation Coordinator) - Ex-Officio Member

Guests:

Steve Mitchell, Mitchell's Auto Group

Laurie Giannotti called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM.

1. Chairman's report (Laurie):

- a. Minutes from January approved.

2. Correspondence

- a. Letter sent to Governor and cc to Dan Esty regarding membership on March 3 and resent to new Comm. Klee.
- b. (out of order) Reviewed membership. Steve Mitchell agreed to take the open spot (from Martin Looney). Brendon Sharkey (for Bruce). Don Williams (for Jason). Lawrence Cafero has a spot as well. Lisa pointed out that she has Martin Looney's appointment and is technically still in that spot. She plans to continue. Steve will contact Lawrence Cafero for appointment.
- c. (out of order) Still no President to take over from Mark. We also need a Vice-Chair. Vote was for Bruce for Chair and Jason as Vice-Chair.
- d. Report that Bike-Ped committee created was sent out.

3. Ct. Department of Transportation & Bike Ped Advisory Committee Update: (Kate Rattan):

- a. Bike Ped Committee report has been published and sent to statutory recipients. Press release is going out and will be available to public by end of week.
 - i. Looking for policy and guidelines. Will need consultant to help with that effort.
 - ii. UCONN putting together curriculum for traffic authorities and others. She will send link to training once developed (this fall) and to the center now.
- b. Still trying to have DMV have more/better cyclists concerns.
- c. Many meetings for greenways links in Fairfield, Bolton, Merritt,
- d. Discussion regarding Bolton extension.
- e. New/updated bike map.
- f. Discussion regarding Merritt Parkway.

4. Legislative report

- a. Airline Trail's Bill. State Parks finds some language objectionable. Wants to give recognition to group as multi-use trail, but needs changes.
- b. 5370: Returning up to 50% of revenue of fees back to support parks
- c. 5369: Individual parks that rent out facilities to keep the rental fees for maintenance and other things.
- d. QEC implementation of recommendations
- e. Keep open space owned by state as open space. Group approved letter in support.

5. Old Business

- a. License plates. Bill will ask Rep. Larson to help out.
- b. Purchase of corridor from Rail America as per Bill.

6. New Business

- a. Will be at Gateway CC. Please submit nominations to Laurie by May 1. She has had some interest for recognition from groups. June 6.
- b. 3/11, Friends of State Parks Rally in Hartford.

7. Next meeting: Standing meetings the 2nd Monday of every other month going forward.

Will not meet in July. The dates are:

- a. **May 12, 2014**
- b. **September 8, 2014**
- c. **November 10, 2014**

8. meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM