

# CT Greenways Council

## Notes of Discussions July 11, 2016

### Council Members (X In attendance)

- X Bruce Donald – Chairman - President of Farmington Valley Trails Council  
Tracy Gionfriddo - Acting Secretary - Eversource
- X Lois Bruinooge - Executive Director, The Last Green Valley
- X Jan Collins - CT Horse Council
- X Bob Dickinson – Appalachian Mountain Club
- X Rista Malanca – Naugatuck River Greenway
- X Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.
- X William D. O’Neill - East Coast Greenway Alliance
- X Steve Mitchell – Mitchell Auto Group (awaiting appointment)  
Michelle Eckman – CT Audubon Society
- X Laurie Giannotti (DEEP Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member  
Kevin Tedesco (DOT Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member

Via conference call: Stacey Sterns, CHC (awaiting appointment) and Jamie Litner, Eversource (awaiting appointment); Guests: Jim Kulpa, VHB; Aaron Budris, NVCOG; Christine Witkowski, MxCC.

**Call to Order** 9:30 am by Bruce Donald.

**Adoption of Minutes** May 2016 meeting minutes. As submitted.

### Chairman’s Report – Bruce Donald

- Farmington Heritage Trail. Ribbon Cutting held in Cheshire
- Rte 6 bridge under construction in Plainville
- Plainville trail planning study underway
- Restoration of CT RTP \$5million dollars is a priority for GC. Partnering with CFPA, CCM, COST, as allows. GC will also consider creative ways to keep the grants program going separate from state and federal funding

### Correspondence – Laurie Giannotti

- Council membership
- Thames River Ferry operational for the summer
- QRLT ribbon cutting

### CT DOT & Bike/Ped Advisory Comm. – Jim Kulpa for DOT

- Farmington under construction
- Bloomfield project next to go to FRP Rte 185-Windsor;
- Moosup Valley SPT under design via BL Corp
- Hop River SPT Bridge under design
- Southington design underway
- Next TA Solicitaion is underway with a December deadline.

### Legislative Report –

- Bruce is meeting with Congresswoman Esty
- BD will be talking about RR liability with DOT Comm. Redeker

### **Old Business –**

- CT Recreational Trails Program
  - Simsbury project will be funded by DOT.
  - Contracts are on their way to recipients.
  - Planning on a new fall solicitation.
- NVCOG Trail User Survey – List of potential stewards was narrowed down to 12; applications will be sent out to potential stewards.
- CT Trails Symposium – to be held Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 at MxCC (represented by Christine Witkowski). Conference details were discussed including time will be 9am-2pm, various sessions and associated speakers were identified. There will be a registration fee and any un-used funds will be donated to an ‘environmental program’. Rista, Bruce and Laurie agreed to be on a subcommittee to work with MxCC, finalize agenda and secure speakers.

### **New Business –**

- Welcomed new members Jamie Litner from Eversource and Stacey Stearns from the CT Horse Council.
- Discussion of trail connections to RI

**Public Q&A – None**

**Next Meeting – VHB, September 12, 2016**

**Adjournment: 11:30 AM**