

CT Greenways Council Meeting Minutes from 6/13/11

In attendance:

David Gumbart, Robert Dickinson, Kate Rattan (DOT Liaison) Laurie Giannotti (DEP liaison), Tenia Seay (DEP liaison), Jan Collins, Mark Paquette, Joe Hickey, Bill O'Neil.

On Conference Call:

Lisa Fernandez, Lois Brunoige, Tracy Gionfriddo.

Guests:

Jim Little, CT Forest & Park Assoc.; Josh Lecar, AICP, Merritt Parkway Alliance; Steve Mitchell, East Coast Greenway.

Jim Little welcomed the Council. Mark Paquette called the meeting to order. Minutes from February and April were moved; February mins were revised per JC; and approved.

Legislative Report- Mark summarized the East Coast Greenway meeting that Simsbury hosted on 4/29/11 and 4/30/11. He said there was a great turnout and ride. Governor Malloy also attended the meeting. Announcement of an upcoming meeting on signage for the East Coast Greenway. There is an internal review being done for Sharrow placement in urban areas.

Correspondence

Laurie G. stated that there is no new information on the License plate fund. Bill O. reported that Senator Steve Cassano is working on the License plate fund and that he would follow up and report back to the Council.

CT DOT Update

DOT Liaison Kate Rattan reported that at the East Coast Greenway meeting (referenced above) Governor Malloy announced a one million dollar budget to study a Merritt Parkway Trail. She also reported that the Hop River State Park Trail bridge over route 317 in Andover was not yet installed. A press release will be issued for the lift date of bridge. Laurie G reported that State Parks staff are working on the approaches to the bridge and the associated parking areas in anticipation of the installation. The Charter Oak Greenway section between Willis and Porter streets is under construction.

Old Business

National Recreational Trails Program - Laurie stated a press release was issued for the Federal Fiscal Year's 2012 funding. DEEP Recreational Trails Program is currently accepting applications.

New Business

CT Designated Greenways 2011 - Laurie & Tenia provided information on proposals for designation as CT Greenways for the Council to consider. After discussion, Bill O. made a motion to accept 5 out of the 7 nominations be accepted. Bob D 2nd, Motion carried. Newly Designated Greenways presented as numbers 3-7 in the following table.

	West Hill Pond Greenway	Chatterton Greenway	Litchfield Community Greenway	Canterbury Quinebaug Corridor	Shetucket River Greenway	Scantic River Greenway (extension)	Pomeraug River Greenway (Includes Nonnewaug & Weekepeemee Rivers & So. Brook)
CRITERIA	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sponsoring Org	NA - Resident	NA - Resident	Friends of Litchfield Community Greenway	Town of Canterbury	Windham, Franklin, Spague, and Scotland Conservation Commissions	Scantic River Watershed Association	Town of Woodbury
Town(s)	New Hartford/Barkhamsted	Hamden	Litchfield	Cantebury	Windham, Franklin, Spague, Scotland	South Windsor	Woodbury
Purpose of greenway	Protection of West Hill Pond and surrounding areas. Recreation/boating/trails/hiking/ridge views	Water Resource Protection/Recreation/Historical Home/Waterfalls	Resource protection, recreation, transportation, resource protection	Resource, protection, recreation, promotion of town for green tourism, cleanup and enhancement.	Resource protection, recreation and historic preservation	Resource protection, recreation, historic and cultural interpretation	Resource protection, recreation, preservation of the rivers environmental integrity while maximizing benefits to residents
Does the corridor connect existing open space, trail segments, historical/cultural assets; provide alternative transportation opportunities; connect neighborhoods to schools, town centers, parks and recreation areas, transportation centers, or open spaces	Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Is the segment submitted for designation a key link in an emerging greenway, either for conservation or recreation purposes	Yes/Barkhamsted Reservoir	yes/Farmington Canal Greenway to Blue-Blazed Trails and Old Highway	yes	yes	yes	yes/scantic river greenway (2002, 2008, 2009, and 2010 designations)	no
If the greenway is a municipal project , is it included in local plan of Conservation and Development	No	no	Not a municipal/but in the plan	yes	yes	no/ but is in the town of south windsor plans for conservation and development	yes
Has your project been endorsed by the local government through a municipal resolution or compact	no	no	no - however, support of the BOS is noted in mins provided	yes	yes	yes	yes
If the greenway is a regional project , is it included in plans of relevant Regional Planning Agency, or Council of Governments, with endorsements by the affected municipalities; or, has an inter-municipal compact been developed between towns	no	no	No	yes	yes	no	yes
If the greenway is a non-governmental project , is it sponsored by an organization with a proven record of land use protection/recreational use, or with proven resources needed for project success; are licensing, easements, or other agreements for use of state, municipal, or private land on file	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	The Scantic River Watershed Assoc.	N/A

CT Greenways Day 2011 – The Council debated holding the event annually vs. bi-annually. There was unanimous support for holding the event annually. The Council discussed and decided to hold the event at the Hop River State Park Trail bridge in Andover in September. Thompson was selected as a back-up site because they have a newly designated National Recreational Trail which is a Canoe Trail. Bill O recommended that the Council present the following dates to Gov. Malloy to see if he will be available: Fridays of September 23, 30 or October 14 were agreed upon. Steve Mitchell and Mark Paquette will coordinate with the Governor’s Office and communicate to the Council when a date and time is selected. Past events have taken place in the afternoon beginning at 1: 00 p.m.

Greenways Awards – Laurie asked The Council to submit any nominees within the next 2 weeks via email. Awardees will be invited to attend Greenways Day.

Next Meeting - Monday, September 12 at 9:30 at DOT. Kate will secure room.

Meeting adjourned 10:30 a.m.