



Council Members (X In attendance)

- X Lois Bruinooge - Deputy Executive Director, The Last Green Valley
- X Jan Collins - (interim secretary) CT Horse Council
- X Robert Dickinson - CT Bicycle Alliance
Lisa Fernandez - Farmington Canal Rail to Trail Assoc.
- X Tracy Gionfriddo - Northeast Utilities
- X David Gumbart – Town of Killingworth; The Nature Conservancy; CT Forest & Park Assoc.
Barbara Pfister Greenbaum - Conserving Tolland
- X Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.
- X William D. O'Neill (vice-chair) - East Coast Greenways Alliance
- X Mark Paquette (chair) - Executive Director WINCOG
- X Laurie Giannotti (DEEP Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member
- X Katherine Rattan (DOT Non-Motorized Transportation Coordinator) - Ex-Officio Member

Guests:

Dave Head, DOT Planning, Tenia Seay (DEEP Recreational Trails Program)

Chairman's Report

Mark Paquette called the meeting to order. Minutes from the June 13th meeting were moved and approved.

Mark urged folks to contact Sandy Fry who needs help counting users on specific trails this week for National Trails week.

Correspondence

Elisabeth Robinson is looking for volunteer or employment opportunities. She has a bachelor's degree; she has experience in writing and project management.

DEEP's budget and reorganization. Laurie G. and Tenia S. remain working for the Trails & Greenways Program. The agency is still transitioning from DEP to DEEP. Laurie G. stated there is a new Deputy Commissioner for the Energy group of DEEP. Commissioner Esty appointed a new deputy Commissioner to replace Amey Marella. Deputy Commissioner Susan Frechette remains in her position with DEEP.

Kate R. stated the Bolton notch gap is being surveyed and progress will continue from there on this section of the Air Line & Hop River State Park Trails. There will be another mile added to Charker Oak Greenway (Air Line Trail extension) in Manchester. There are more trails that have opened in Canton. DEEP State Parks staff are clearing the Air Line Trail in Thompson. The Putnam Bridge is moving forward. A group is being formed to look at the U.S. Bike system. The Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee has a new chairman Neil S. Pade, AICP.

Dave Head stated there may be a ride on the East Coast Greenway next year. They want to sign the trail as part of the Greenway Internal Bike Committee.



Old Business

Details for the annual Greenways Day were finalized. To be held bridge or no bridge in Andover near the site of the pending Hop River Trail Bridge. The was ceremony scheduled for Friday, October 21st at 1 pm.

[Recreational Trails Program](#) update - Laurie stated that the 2012 grant round closed and there are 31 proposals. There are a lot of new towns that applied. The RT Advisory Committee will meet to rank the proposals on October 25th in Hartford. The 2011 money will soon be released.

The Merritt Parkway Trail Study continues to move forward with the more enthusiastic towns.

Mark stated that he sent a letter to restore the Greenways License Plate Fund. He will have a meeting with Senator Cassano concerning the License plate fund. Bill stated he will meet with the Chief of staff at the Governor's office. We are still waiting to hear from the Gov office on Council appointments.

Laurie stated that DEEP has taken their long standing request for PA07-7 bikeway funding off of their request list to the Bond Commission.

Mark stated that the Connecticut Bike/Walk Summit will be held at Yale University September 27th.

Kate: "Bicycle and Pedestrian Funding: A Workshop on How to Tap Underutilized Funding" is being held on November 4th at CCSU.

New Business

Mark: [The Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan](#) (SCORP) is being drafted. Many trails supporters attended the associated public meetings. Laurie provided a copy of the schedule of SCORP and the draft plan development.

Bill stated next year East Coast Greenway event will come through CT next year. They will be coming from Canada. Hopefully CONNDOT will be involved.

Mark announced that beginning at the September meeting, the Greenways Council will begin to discuss its focus, mission and strategies for the future.

Lois stated that the [Walktober brochures](#) are out and online.

Next meeting is scheduled for 11/14/11 at DOT at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.