



Minutes of the CT Greenways Council Meeting 1/14/13

Council Members (X In attendance)

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

X Jan Collins - CT Horse Council

X Tracy Gionfriddo - Northeast Utilities – acting Secretary

Barbara Pfister Greenbaum - Tolland, CT

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

X Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.

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

X Bob Dickinson – Appalachian Mountain Club

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

Lisa Fernandez - Farmington Canal Rail to Trail Association

Guests: Sam Gold, Ingrid Manning

Mark Paquette called the meeting to order at 9:39AM.

- 1. Guest Discussion:** Naugatuck River Greenway – Sam Gold, Central Naugatuck Valley COG.
 - a. Executive summary of routing study
 - b. Torrington to Derby planning since 1990s. Noted as one of the top outdoor development projects. Going through very developed areas with no base (like a rail line). Connecting various assets, such as cultural, fishing, and multi-modal transportation. Been able to bring in various stakeholders.
 - c. Reviewed Naugatuck River movie.(will soon be available on youtube)
- 2. Chairman's report (Mark):**
 - a. Minutes from December approved.
- 3. Correspondence**
 - a. Bike Ped: accomplishments listed by Laurie
 - i. Five newly designated state greenways
 - ii. Completed Greenways Council 5 year update 2012-2017
 - iii. Provided comments to OPM State Conservation and Dev. Plan

- iv. 13 Annual Greenways Day celebration held in Watertown
- v. Supported Recreational Trails Grant Program during federal re-authorization
- vi. Continue to work on restoration of the CT Greenways License Plate Fund

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

- a. Bolton Notch meetings will be later this month and is listed on the website
- b. Discussing Hop River Trail connection. Presentation on what the design team has come up with so far.
- c. Informational session. Well publicized.
- d. \$11.5 m of budget to bike ped in last year
- e. Biking and walking survey being done at this time, results in March or April

5. Merrit Parkway: (Kate)

- a. Biking or walking while work moves forward with multi-modal trail. Seeking written comments, website for trail study.
- b. Motion to send letter to DOT regarding formalizing a hiking trail while planning continues for Merritt Parkway Greenway. Motion approved. Laurie will send letter to review

6. Legislative report

- a. None.

7. Old Business

- a. Recreation Trails Grant Program (Laurie): request for proposals just went out. Closing date is March 31. Expecting many proposals. Covers two funding years. Has \$930K for 2013 and more for 2014 (don't have numbers yet).
- b. Merritt Parkway Trail Study (Josh or Kate): see above
- c. Restoration of license plate funds (Mark): Bill indicated that a ECG meeting will be held on Feb. 7th in Hartford and license plates will be discussed.

8. New Business

- a. Feb 1st newly designated greenways announcement goes out and deadline is May 1.
- b. Annual meeting will be in Norwich with new greenway extension. Need to verify time and data for May 31st annual meeting.

9. Next meeting: March 11th at 9:30 at NU.

10. meeting adjourned at 10:55