

Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
Board of Trustees Meeting
Meeting Minutes
September 27th, 2012 6:30pm

Attendance: M. Grant, H. Drew, P. August, A. Desbonnet, H. Ward, N. Hess, W. Galloway, C. Fox, D. Ionata, G. Cunningham, A. Morrison, T. Boving

1. Call to Order 6:37 pm

- a) Approval of Minutes 8-16-12: *Moved and approved*
- b) Introductory Comments – *None*

2. Reports

- a) President's Report – *None*
- b) Executive Director's Report - C. Fox
 - i. *Lawson Cary dedication to be a small event on Sat Oct 20th at 10am*
 - ii. *Laura and Chris working on unemployment claim from Danielle; Dept. Labor and Training has classified her departure as a voluntary quit. As such the cost of her unemployment comes from the State's "balancing account", independent of the WPWA at no cost to us. They have requested that RIDLT respond to WPWA in writing to confirm there will be no impact to our Unemployment Insurance rate over the short or long term.*
 - iii. *Chris can apply for a Trails Improvement Grant at the Jay Cronin River Access. Can apply for a \$100K from DEM for a design-build project. Chris would spend about 50 hours administering the project but this would not be reimbursed. Chris has checked with USGS and DEM and their input so far has been positive. The goal of the project would be to make the Cronin Access a best management practice and include stream bank stabilization and stormwater runoff.*
 - iv. *Reports new Admin Asst Heather Hamilton is settling in nicely and is a fine addition to the team.*
- c) Treasurer's Report – P. August
 - i. *Pete reviewed the year to month budget figures. No red flags, spending is what we had budgeted. Everyone agreed that future Treasure's report should be less detailed, only cover significant problems, and take no more than 5 minutes. Every quarter we can have a more detailed report.*

3. New Business

- a) 2013 WPWA DRAFT Budget Presentation – P. August, C. Fox & K. Armstrong
 - i. *After everyone put on their most powerful reading glasses to see the microprint in the draft budget, discussion ensued*
 - ii. *We will raise membership dues to \$35 for individuals and \$50 for families. Dues have not been raised for many years*

- iii. Chris, Pete, and Kristy will prepare a revised budget and get it out to everyone before the next Board meeting for detailed discussion*

4. Old Business

- a) Fundraising/ Annual Meeting – D. Ionata*
 - i. We discussed a joint art sale with local artists. They would provide the art, we would organize the event and split profits. Dante will organize a meeting with Ms. Shaw the local artists who offered the idea.*
 - ii. We will not do a live auction at the Annual Meeting*
 - iii. Various activities were discussed that could be done to raise money*
 - iv. Alisa Morrison will join the Board Development Committee*
 - v. The Committee will bring ideas for fund raising projects to the next meeting*
- b) Strategic Planning/RIF Grant Application Progress – A. Desbonnet & C. Fox*
 - i. Should be hearing from RIF soon*
- c) Board Development Committee Reactivation & Mtg. Request – C. Fox*
 - i. Helen will convene the Board Development Committee and explore any by-law changes we should consider*

5. Conclusion

- a) Closing Remarks*
 - i. The Board thinks the idea to subordinate DEM under a Department of Commerce is a bad idea*
 - ii. Christmas party to be 6:00 to 8:00 PM on December 2 at Mal's House*
- b) Adjourned at 8:42 PM*