

**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
Board of Trustees Meeting
Meeting Minutes
March 20th, 2014 6:30pm**

Attending: H. Drew, W. Galloway, P. August, A. Morrison, C. Fox,
Not in Attendance: T. Boving, A. Desbonnet, M. Grant, K. Coulter, G. Cunningham
Guests: Grace Lentini, Steve Wright

1. Call to Order 6:40 PM No Quorum *H. Drew Presiding for A. Desbonnet*

Business H. Drew

Drew endorses a \$1,000 grant application to the RI Senate sponsored by Sen. Rumsey for WPWA's 2014 Water Quality expenses (appx \$10K)

2. Reports

a. Financial Report P. August

Year end 2013 reports and Treasurer's written report available on WPWA Board Documents webpage were reviewed by members prior to the meeting. P. August notes the general pattern of income and expenses were on target and that cash flow is strong. Followed by an explanation of the math required to bring the approximate \$150K 2013 profit down to about \$5K. This was the amount that was budgeted as surplus and carried to the 2014 budget during late 2013's budget drafting process. See Treasurer's written summary for detailed explanation.

b. Program Reports C. Fox & Board

MISSION DEVELOPMENT

River Restoration & Flood Mitigation:

June 30th target date for Shannock Fish Passage ribbon cutting with US Congressional Delegates. C. Fox assisting with RI Nature Conservancy's efforts to reduce flooding and increase fish passage on the lower Pawcatuck. Efforts are unfunded until RI TNC reaches contractual agreement with USFWS. When agreements are in place (May 2014) WPWA will be authorized to charge an hourly expense rate sufficient to cover C. Fox's salary expense and some admin expenses. * The anticipated time C. Fox provides as a technical advisor is apt to delay certain 2014 WPWA Work Plan items to 2015 (EG: redrafting of digital/print/presentation resources)

• **PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

Education, Recreation, & Service: Progress in line with 2014 Plan of Work

• **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Fund: Tabled for discussion at a later meeting

Q: Are we still pursuing \$10K in RIF funding? *H. Drew & A. Desbonnet will discuss tomorrow*

Membership: Tabled for discussion later in the meeting

Campus: Renovations are behind schedule due to weather and permits. Campus will not be ready in time for Opening Day of fishing season (4/12) but will be ready in time for 5/28 Annual Meeting. C. Fox to request authorization to use additional Champlin Funds to cover cost overruns attributed mainly to the unanticipated addition of new roofing on both buildings. 2014 WPWA Work Plan items to 2015 (EG: redrafting of digital/print/presentation resources)

• **Climate Change Ad Hoc Committee**

Conference Planning– how climate change will manifest in our community - considering lectures adapting watershed -4 evenings with 4 types of presentations: science and what do we do to adapt watershed . what roles do we have to take to address issues. 1st one on biodiversity and ecosystems invasive species, 2nd session – storms and floods 3rd – water supply and ground water

4th infrastructure and energy. have lists of emails for invites – conservation commissions, list serves, Chambers of commerce, etc..proposed donors – Aqua Science, Pfizer, Amgen, Coastal Institute, RI Sea Grant. Attendees get 6 month free WPWA membership. Thursdays in June 2014 630 to 830 – at Chariho middle school. Will train moderators. To mitigate and protect watershed. What do we do? Next meeting April 2nd at Tom's house. This touches on inland issues as opposed to coastal that has been done. CI wants to participate. RIClimateChange.org will be updated with this info. Get Senator Whitehouse to annual meeting to promote series and invite him.

Board development – grace and steve to see if they are interested in joining the board. Helen is going to reach out to realtor Erin Diaz (Beaches & Backroads) as well. Attending sessions on INE at RI Foundation

- **Annual Meeting**

Board agrees with staff's recommendation that awards be targeted at Shannock project partners. Attendees agree with the slate of award winners presented via email by C. Fox. Board agrees with choice of Family Reunion meeting theme and that the meeting be at the WPWA campus on the evening of Weds May 28th. Guests will bring a dish. No cost allows leverage for donation request. Sen. Whitehouse yet to confirm he will attend and promote climate change conference. H. Drew recommends locking the date regardless of Senator's attendance. WPWA boats available for guests to use. Board offers to assist in calling former board members to personally invite them if provided contact lists. ***Agreement reached that the annual meeting will serve as the donor appreciation party with targeted direct mail invites to top donors.***

- **Board Development Committee**

H. Drew requests every board member submit 3-5 names of potential board members to her. Grace and Steve will consider joining the board. Helen is going to reach out to realtor Erin Diaz (Beaches & Backroads) as well.

- **WPWA Slate of Officers**

Tabled for update from A. Desbonnet

3. Adjourn 8:40pm

Minutes submitted electronically by A. Morrison & C. Fox.