

**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 16th, 2012 6:30pm**

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

**1. Call to Order      M. Grant presiding**

- a) Approval of Minutes 7/19/12:      Motion to approve, passes
- b) Introductory Comments: M. Grant Introduced and welcomed new Board member Walt Galloway

**2. Reports**

- a) President's Report: M. Grant, No formal report
- b) Treasurer's Clarification of June 2012 Report: P. August explained that \$10,000 over-spending in personnel was due to less time required of Chris in early and mid-summer on dam removal projects. Work will pick up in the Fall. \$10,000 under-spending in admin expenses compensates for over-spending in personnel.
- c) Executive Director's Report - C. Fox. Reviewed Horseshoe Falls project work. Dedication of fish ladder in mid-October. Danielle has trained Heather Hamilton. Heather is working out great!

**3. New Business**

- a) Fundraising/Annual Meeting Discussion: Request to Table by D. Ionata approved.
- b) Strategic Planning/RIF Grant Application Progress: A. Desbonnet reviewed discussions with Jenny Pereira at RI Foundation. He and Chris are requesting \$10,000 for an externally facilitated assessment of Board composition, Board duties, and Board operations. There is enough funding to hire local facilitator Mark Amaral who comes highly regarded from many sources. Alan will circulate the draft proposal among the Board for comments. The Board authorized Alan to submit the proposal to RIF along with Chris.
- c) Harold Ward initiated a discussion of big future issues in the watershed that WPWA might want to take a lead on addressing. The NPS wild and scenic river authorization will certainly be a potentially big opportunity. Harold briefed the Board on poor management of groundwater protection by the State and this has major implications for the watershed as all our rivers are ultimately supplied by groundwater flow. Valued species, such as Brook Trout, require cold water streams which are cold because they are fed by groundwater. Vigorous discussion ensued and there was general agreement that this was a major issue and would be exacerbated by climate change.

**4. Conclusion**

- a) Next meeting will be 27 September 2012.
- b) Motion to Adjourn, moved and passes

Minutes submitted by P. August and C. Fox