

CONNECTICUT



GREENWAYS

Bruce Donald
Tri-State Coordinator,
East Coast Greenway
Chairman

Lois Bruinooge
Executive Director
Last Green Valley

Bob Dickinson
Appalachian Mtn. Club

Michelle Eckman
Director of Education
CT Audubon Society

Joe Hickey
CT Forest & Park Assoc.

Jamie Lintner
Eversource Energy

Rista Malanca
Naugatuck River
Greenway
Vice Chairman

Gwen Marrion
Bolton Trails Committee

Stacey Stearns
CT Horse Council

William D. O'Neill
East Coast Greenway
Past Chairman

Laurie Giannotti
Ex-Officio
CT Dept. of Energy &
Environmental Protection

Anna Bergeron
Ex-Officio
CT Dept. of
Transportation

Council Meeting Minutes May 13, 2019

9:30 AM to 10:30AM,

VHB, Inc. offices, 100 Great Meadow Road Suite 200, in Wethersfield, CT.

Council Members present:

Bruce Donald, Lois Bruinooge, Bob Dickinson, Joe Hickey, Gwen Marrion, Bill O'Neill, Laurie Giannotti, Anna Bergeron

Council Members on the Phone:

Jamie Lintner
Michelle Eckman
Stacey Stearns

Members of the Public Present:

Paula Burton – WCOG; CT NEMBA
Charlie Taney – NRVF
Jim Kulpa - VHB

Members of the Public on the Phone:

Laura Brown – UConn Extension
Kate Rattan - SECCOG
Delia Fey – NECCOG
Tim Malone – CRCOG
Gene Nicols – DPH
Bill Bowles - NEMBA

Call to Order 9:35

Secretary – Laurie Giannotti

Acceptance or Revisions to Agenda – accepted.

Adoption of Minutes – April minutes approved. Joe Hickey/Bill O'Neill

Welcome New Council Member – Gwen Marrion was welcomed to the CGC and discussed her experience with greenways and trails. Including, Bolton former Selectman, current Land Trust BOD, work with East Coast Greenway in Bolton since 2005.

Chairman's Report – Bruce will share list of Hartford projects that are underway. In the next year or two, connectivity through FFLD County will be the focus for the East Coast Greenway. ECG remains committed to the Merritt Parkway corridor and are also looking at additional crossings.

Laurie explained how CT Bonding delays may impact CRTP in 2020; DEEP is still on track for an August request for proposals pending available funds.

Goodwin College has purchased property to get their trail to the Putnam Bridge. Kate Rattan noted that funding from tolling would be for construction of the Putnam project per a DOT representative at a recent public meeting.

Correspondence nothing to report

DOT Update – Momentum for CT Bonding may delay \$ being released for projects. DOT is focused on tolling right now. Most projects are stalled until June. Notes from the DOT Bike Ped Advisory Committee were sent to CGC from Sandy Fry.

Legislative Report – Greenways Plate – still alive. Bruce noted that funding is approximately \$32,000.00 with flexibility for potential uses.

New Business –

- August 24 charter Oak Park Rotarian event. Bill has details.
- Providence to Hartford Relay by Hartford Marathon and others Oct 13.
- Sat June 29 Bike Walk CT Ride the State on the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail

New Business (continued) –

- Ribbon cutting is being planned for newest section in Bolton. Date TBD. Gwen and Anna are involved in planning.
- Friday is the 16th Bike to Work Day. Team DOT has been accumulating miles this past month.
- June 13 CT RCD Annual Meeting in Columbia. Kick off for the 12 Town Air Line State Park Trail Master Plan project.
- Sen. Cusano has requested information on speed limits on trails. Bruce explained that since trails have various owners, a statewide speed limit would be difficult to implement. FCHT has a 15mph limit and Hamden, Simsbury and East Granby have local speed ordinances which would protect the municipalities if an injury occurred.
- E-bikes are a new problem and enforcement is difficult.

Public Comments – none.

Next Meeting – Monday June 10

Adjournment 10:50 AM

The remaining 2019 meeting dates are:

June 10

July 8

August – no meeting

September 9

October 15

November 12

December – no meeting

Event Dates:

October 24(planned) - CT Trails Symposium

An appointed, volunteer board dedicated to planning and implementing greenways in Connecticut

Connecticut Greenways Council

Per CGS Sec. 23-102. **The duties of the council shall be:**

1. To **advise and assist** in the coordination of state agencies, municipalities, regional planning organizations and private citizens in voluntarily planning and **implementing a system of greenways**;
2. To operate a **greenways help center** to advise state agencies, municipalities, regional planning organizations and private citizens in the technical aspects of planning, designing and implementing greenways, including advice on securing state, federal and nongovernmental grants;
3. To **establish criteria for designation of greenways**;
4. To maintain an **inventory of greenways** in the state which shall include the location of greenways transportation projects which have received grants under sections 23-101, 32-6a, 32-9qq and 32-328;
5. To **advise the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development** on the distribution of grants for greenways transportation projects pursuant to sections 32-6a, 32- 9qq and 32-328; and
6. To **advise the Commissioner of Environmental Protection** on the distribution of grants pursuant to section 23-101.