



Connecticut Greenways Council

Minutes of Meeting

April 11, 2023

Via Zoom

A regular meeting of the CT Greenways Council was held Tuesday, April 11, 2023 via ZOOM. The agenda was published on the website prior to the meeting. Meeting link details were sent to invitee list by Kim Bradley with reminder several days prior.

Present were council members: Bruce Donald (Chair), Paula Burton, Bob Dickenson, Rista Malanca, Gillian Carroll and Stacey Sterns, and Ex-Officio members Kim Bradley and Anna Bergeron.

Guests attending were: Caitlin Palmer, Kyle Casiglio, Emily Wilson, Zbigniew Grabowski, “Jay (Guest)”, Bill Boles, Chris Roberts, Jame Kulpa and Dan Buckley.

Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:05 and established a quorum. Audio recording was started.

- Call to Order and Welcome: Bruce.

- Adoption of minutes.
 - Mar 14th minutes sent as attachments, call for additions.
 - Motion to accept, Rista. Paula seconded.
 - Passed unanimously.

- Chairman’s Report – Bruce Donald.
Bruce will yield most of his time to Kim Bradley and CRT Grant review.

Bidding:

- Bidding Season is open.

- CT DOT & Bike/Ped Advisory Committee -Anna Bergeron
 - Route 146 process underway.
 - Introducing new employee (first day!) Christopher Roberts
 - Trip program went out.
 - BD (Bruce) need meeting with DOT on potential cross-over of CRT grants and DOT.
 - AB (Anna) already met with KB (Kim) narrowed to a smaller list.
 - Need to review again.
 - KB to send info on Shared Drive for more review off-line.

- CT DEEP Updates – Kim Bradley
 - Update on Sports Advisory Committee – update April 25th for those on committee
 - Equestrian counterparts advised.
 - A LOT of work on the CRT Grant review. Big shout out to sub team that held multiple meetings and reviews.
 - 97 Applications, \$29.5MM total requested.
 - 66 high ranking, 45 will be funded at some level.
 - KB then shared screen and reviewed each of the 45 with request amount and actual recommended funding.
 - BD **THIS IS Preliminary. Still needs sign-off.**
 - KB Many received funding through DESIGN PHASE given the 3 year time limit of the contracts once awarded.
 - Once signed off, KB will reach out to Grant recipients to confirm they will still want if less than requested.
 - Letters to both recipients and those not receiving funding will go out in ~2 weeks (~4/25). Additionally, there will be a press release.
 - DB (Dan) indicated that the LIST that KB reviewed was not captured in minutes and would need separate access for anyone’s review.
 - PB (Paula) remarked that it was a Good Process and Tools for this. Thank you to all!
 - BD indicated that next years CRT funding is \$5MM (vs 2023 \$9MM).
 - He was approached and asked if we/they needed more funding (!?)
 - BD requested a motion to Accept proposed list.
 - RM (Rista) made the motion/SS (Stacey) 2nded. Passes unanimously.
 - BDn (Bob) asked if there will be feedback to those NOT receiving funding.
 - KB yes.
 - Discussion of moving the process to Dec/Jan.
 - PB indicate that not all decisions were strictly numerical. Some consideration given to geographical spread, ability to prosecute award fully, user base, etc.
- Old Business:
 - Connecticut Trails summit 2023 planning -KB
 - Will set up next meeting with sub committee.
 - SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) (BD)
 - Meeting coming up. BD will NOT be there. PB will attend.
 - Absolutely need input to this process.
 - CT Trail Finder/Trail Census update – EH (Emily)
 - Thanks to committee.
 - Held advisory committee meeting. Will hold quarterly.
 - Shared Aarons Calibration report.
 - 2nd year funded by CGC.

- We have shared 2022 report draft.
- Discussion on locations/placements of counters.

- Trail Finder
 - 10 new trails added – 6 are state parks.
 - National Trails Summit in Reno next week – EH attending.
- Greenways Fund -BD No real update.
 - \$funds are available.
 - KB will get quotes for printing RAC cards.
 - BD how do we disseminate?
 - Slots at DMV. CT auto dealers association.
 - RM suggests social media
 - BD do have funds for some sort of poster.
 - KB will get DEEP Communications team.
 - Bill advised that these should be included in Registration Renewals (#9) as well as along trail.
- Greenways 2023 Nominations. - KB
 - Jun 2nd awards in Hammonasset Beach State Park, picnic shelter behind Meigs Point Museum (beautiful location and vistas!)
 - Portal open on website.
 - KB showed State Park repurposed Tulipwood slab that the AWARD plaques from which they will be fashioned.
 - KB will send out guidelines to the board
 - Please reach out for nominations.
- New Business
 - J (guest) asked about Brewster to Danbury.
 - BD meet with COG to possibly ask for a broader corridor study that would include the trail.
 - BD has a meeting with ALTA group (same design firm as Empire Trail – NY)
 - BD (to KB) need posters for publicity for outside events.
 - KB will do along with overall mission.
 - RM are we ready? ??
 - BD have \$\$ ofor ~100 posters.
 - BDn asked about New Tariffville construction update.
 - BD way ahead of schedule with light winter.
 - BD Shout out to East Hartford meeting tonight 4-7 Raymond Library East Hartford.
 - JK (James) then gave a review of many projects that are currently underway.
 - DB requested a list as these couldn't all get captured in minutes.

No other business, end of general agenda

Public Comment:

- BDN Publi meeting Bloomfield April 26th.
- Kim: Connecticut Trails Learning Committee, 3rd Wed 2PM. (April 22nd next)

Next meeting: **Tuesday, May 9th.**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM

Submitted by Dan Buckley