



P.O. Box 57, Durham, CT 06422-0057

Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2018

Call to Order:

The meeting was held at CFPA Library -16 Meriden Rd., Rockfall. The meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by Diane

Attending: Diane Ciano, David Frassinelli, Meg Sautter, Ginger Tullai, Eric Hammerling and Laurie Giannotti,

Excused: Ruth Beardsley, Fred Mastele

Review Meeting Minutes: December 14, 2017 were reviewed. Motion to accept by Meg
2nd by Eric. Passed unanimously.

State Park & Forest updates:

Natchaug SF : Diane reported: that she was contacted by the new supervisor Ted Sauve to let her know that a logging operation will begin in Natchaug and will include the Lost Siver Mine Horse Camp. DEEP will work with CHC and start logging operations sometime after National Trails Day weekend. CHC will notify other groups of the logging operation once it starts. Also, Matt Quinn is another person we can still contact.

Salmon River State Forest: Ginger reported that she has had contact with Roxanne Winslow that she is working on rerouting some of the trails that are not sustainable. Laurie said that she needs to contact the Supervisor David Buckley to let him know, if she has not already done so.

Goodwin State Forest: Diane reported: Beth Bernard has asked what kind of markers we want on the new trail that was made to connect the Airline to the parking lot at the Educational Center. She has gotten a grant for them. I told her that we prefer the yellow markers as most people recognize them as multi use trail markers.

Larkin Bridle Trail: Diane reported that DEEP Supervisor, Nathan Hale has been taking care of downed trees on the trail as they are being reported. CHC appreciates the great communication response with him. Laurie reported that there was a sewage spill in Oxford on the Christian Road section that will be taken care of and the trail will be restored.

Machimoodus and Sunrise State Parks: Ginger reported on working with the Supervisor, Phil Yuris regarding having a Campout and Trail rides there for National Trails Day event.

Other trail reports: Diane reported that CHC-VHP volunteers participated at the No Child Left Inside Winter Festival In February at Burpond State Park. There were over 1,200 attendees at the event.

Legislative Discussion:

Eric led the discussion on several bills including **SB 429** Passport to the Parks, **SB424** Authorizing Bonding for Bikeways, Greenways and Recreational Trails. SB 449 An Act concerning the disposition of the former Seaside Sanatorium Facility.

There will be a public hearing on Monday before the GAE Committee on two bills: **SJ 35** a resolution to amend the state constitution to protect public lands, and **SB 502** a conveyance bill that proposes several public land parcels to be given away. Examples of some state or DOT lands to be given away without cost includes 3 Parcels (total of 48 acres) to the town of Cheshire, and 2 acres of DOT land to the town of South Windsor.

Pachaug State Forest - Discussion on the Firearms Training Facility where Griswold and local residents have formed groups to protest the proposed range there. CHC has addressed the legislature in both public hearings **HB 5304** and **SB 477** to cancel unissued bond authorizations of a firearms training facility and vehicle operations training center. CHC members were also notified about these bills and asked to address them.

Old Business:

DOT Bike-Ped Plan: Laurie reported that the draft released and placed on the web page: ctbike.org. There was a significant rewrite to incorporate commissioners.

New Business:

Laurie reported:

Trails Symposium: that Greenways Council's subcommittee includes CFPA, CHC, UCONN, NEMBA. Will be held Thursday, October 25, 2018.

Trail Census will have free webinar data in April.

National Trails Day - The Greenways Council will kick off the events with their awards on Friday, June 1st at the Avalonial Land Trust 50th Anniversary of the National Trails System - Nathan Lester House in Ledyard.

Volunteer Horse Patrol - VHP meeting was March 10th. We now have a study on the 14 years of collected stats on the 88 areas that were patrolled. It was completed by UCONN. We would like to see this study up on both the EAC And Greenways websites and other appropriate websites for people searching for information on trails and their usage.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the EAC will be Thursday, June 21, 2018, 2017 at 6:30 pm. At the CFPA Library.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Meg 7:49 pm. Seconded by Ginger. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Ciano
Acting Secretary, EAC