Natural Resources Committee  
March 21, 2012 meeting

Attendance
Commissioners: Maggie Bartenhagen, Nicholas Bartenhagen, Andy Toepfer and Dominique Haynes, John Whitman  
Staff: Dinah Reed.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

Minutes - Draft Minutes of February 15 meeting; on Motion to approve by Toepfer, Second by Haynes, approved unanimously as presented.

Discussion of agenda for Round Table meeting on April 25
• 7:00 pm – Start (have room at 6:30)
  o Have table at front where people enter.
  o Provide name tags of those who RSVP in advance.
  o Provide blank tags for others
  o After signing in, direct people toward large maps exercise (Existing Land Use and Natural Resources Maps) – ask people to draw, using marker color associated with type of resource/project/interest they are either working on or wish to start working on in region. Allow people to say hello to friends and get refreshments. (15-20 minutes)
• 7:20 pm - Once everyone seems to have arrived, ask them to sit down.
  o Round of introductions - NAME, ORG./TOWN (5-10 minutes)
• 7:30 pm - Bring maps closer so everyone can see them.
  o Facilitator starts talking about why we are all here tonight (Networking and Systems View of the Region)...Summary of current projects listed by groups involved (Most of this information will be gathered by phone calls to the Conservation Commissions before the meeting). Role of WRC Natural Resource Committee, regional plan (need their input). Announce important projects/grants already happening or about to happen in region, and talk about big picture/long range projects such as Open Space Plans / projects relating to TS Irene.
  o Allow group to make comments based on what they have gleaned from maps (15-20 minutes)
• 7:45 pm - Break out into small groups to allow networking
  o (Decide how we will break out….based on resource topic?, adjacent towns?, maybe just let them forge their own small groups) (30-35 minutes)
• **8:15 pm** - Bring everyone back together to report “something” they gained from their small group discussion
  - End meeting by informing them we will pull information together and send it to everyone…make sure everyone has signed in with an email address.
  - Ask group how many would be willing to meet again in two months?, 3 months?, 6 months? *(15-20 minutes)*

• **TOTAL –end anywhere from 8:30 – 8:45 pm,** *(have room until 9:00)*

Report outs regarding other WRC committees as they relate to Natural Resources:
  • Transportation Committee – meeting with Molly Burke – annual gas tax revenues are going down because cars are becoming more efficient, 40% of green house gas emissions comes from transportation, looking into the option of a “vehicle miles traveled” tax so people will be charged by the number of miles they drive vs. whether or not they drive a car that burns a lot of gas or one that does not.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dinah Reed