



**From 5/7/12**

**Council Members (X In attendance)**

- Lois Bruinooge - Deputy Executive Director, The Last Green Valley
- X Jan Collins - CT Horse Council
- X Robert Dickinson - CT Bicycle Alliance
- Tracy Gionfriddo - Northeast Utilities – acting Secretary
- X Barbara Pfister Greenbaum - Tolland, CT (by teleconference line)
- X David Gumbart – Town of Killingworth; The Nature Conservancy; CT Forest & Park Assoc.
- X Joe Hickey - CT Forest & Park Assoc.
- X Mark Paquette (chair) - Executive Director WINCOG
- X Laurie Giannotti (DEEP Liaison) - Ex-Officio Member
- X Katherine Rattan (DOT Non-Motorized Transportation Coordinator) - Ex-Officio Member
- X Lisa Fernandez - Farmington Canal Rail to Trail Association (by teleconference line)
- William D. O’Neill - East Coast Greenway Alliance

**Guests:**

Steve Mitchell

**Chairman’s Report:**

Mark Paquette called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. Minutes from the March 2012 meeting were accepted. Motion by Joe Hickey, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laurie Giannotti.

**Correspondance:** The Greenways Council (GC) was contacted by a group supporting a CT River Trail in Haddam; a Powerpoint was provided via email for the GC to review. The GC discussed the group’s request that the GC write a support letter to the Governor and etc. The GC did not reach consensus; no letter was authorized.

**Strategic development:**

The GC duties per CGS Sec. 23-102 were discussed and revised as follows:

1. 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
2. To **advise the Commissioner of Energy & Environmental Protection** on the distribution of grants pursuant to section 23-101.

The GC will discuss its mission statement at the next meeting.



**Ct. Department of Transportation & Bike Ped Advisory Committee Update** - Kate Rattan reported as follows:

- The CTBPAB is working on sidewalk safety; considering a policy on statewide bicycle accommodations on trains.
- Merritt Parkway Trail – public meetings ongoing; Kate will invite Will Britnell to attend a GC meeting to discuss the route likely this summer during the ‘route review’ period.
- East Coast Greenway Signage – ongoing in the approval process; Kate will let the GC know which towns are still pending so that GC members might help.
- Bolton Notch – surveys are being compiled, on schedule.
- Hop River State Park Trail bridge in Andover – Complete. May 12, opening celebration. Next meeting LG will report on State Parks progress with maintenance to the bridge approaches and a potential trail link to the 7Eleven. The Route 6 Corridor Study includes trail linkages to the Hop RSPT and is online at the Capitol Region’s website.
- Training – In April there was a 2 day workshop for designing bicycle facilities.
- Putnam Bridge (Glastonbury to Wethersfield) – negotiating man hours. Planning a 6’ wide access for bike/ped.
- National Bike Month – 5/1 Tom Maziarz will be in Simsbury; 5/18 KR and David Head will be in Hartford and Simsbury, there will be press releases and also on [the DOT website](#). See [CT Rides.org](#) for route planner that is multi-modal.
- RD asked for an update on the route in Hartford from Forbes Street near the stadium. KR reported that the route now planned will use Brewer St, Forbes, Route 5 then back north for safety reasons related to UTC.
- JC asked if the DOT bike map will be printed. KR reported No.
- Steve Mitchell – reported on recent bike/ped events and how Simsbury’s experiences as a Bike Friendly Community (BFC) are great for motivating other communities. South Windsor will soon be designated a BFC.
- LF asked where folks could find current bike-ped information. KR referenced the [ctbikemap.org](#) site and that there is potential to link to other sites such as [fvgreenway.org](#) and [farmingtoncanalgreenway.org](#).



- BG asked if clarification on cost issues was on the website. KR noted that an index for daily traffic and shoulder width; accurate regional and town data; and a more efficient platform are being investigated to improve the website.
- BG mentioned that the Tolland Open Space maps are available on-line from the [Conserving Tolland website](#) and in hard copy on a carabineer for convenience.

**Legislative Report:**

Mark P still is working with Sen. Cassano on restoring the Greenway Plate funds.

**Old Business:**

- 1) [Recreational Trails Grant Program](#) – still in limbo; 2011 funds have not yet been released.
- 2) Mark P will ask for a meeting with DEEP Commissioner to update him on the Council's activities and initiatives.

**New Business/Updates:**

- 3) RD question re: Windsor Locks Canal Trail closure due to eagle nesting. LG referred him to Dawn McKay at DEEP Wildlife Division for more information.
- 4) Steve Mitchell noted that folks can see a recent interview with DOT Comm. Reddeker on the [simsburytv.org](#).

**Next Meeting:**

July 16<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM to 11 at DOT. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.