

WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Charlestown Exeter Hopkinton Narragansett New Shoreham North Kingstown Richmond South Kingstown Westerly

WCRPC Monthly Meeting Minutes for April, 2002

Attendees:

WCRPC Representatives and Staff

Dale Grogan, North Kingstown
Henry Oppenheimer, Richmond
Lori Urso, Westerly
John Hickey, Narragansett
Robert Corrigan, Hopkinton
Devon Preston, WCRPC

Advisory Members and Public

Jeff Nield, RI DEM
Jim Lamphere, Charlestown Planning
Geoffrey Marchant, Community Dev. Consortium
Michael Rauh, The Washington Trust Company
Robert Harding, RI Rural Development Council
Dorothy Reynolds, RI Rural Development Council
Meg Kerr, RI Sea Grant/ CRC
Ray Nickerson, Town of South Kingstown
Kris Hermanns, The RI Foundation

The regular monthly meeting of the Washington County Regional Planning Council (WCRPC) was held on Thursday, April 18, 2002 at 8:30 a.m. at The Washington Trust Company building in Charlestown.

The minutes from the March monthly meeting were approved.

The Executive Director reported on the month's activities, including summary of the April 4 "Funding Education" forum, and announcement that a URI Graduate Coastal Fellow will be on WCRPC staff this summer.

Lori Urso, Executive Director of the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Council (and WCRPC Board Secretary) gave a presentation on the present drought situation in the state, illustrated by a comparison of data on groundwater levels in March of 2001 and 2002, and introduced the Pawcatuck Watershed Optimization Project. Meg Kerr announced a May 22 workshop, "Do We Have Enough Water? A workshop on managing water quantity in Washington County," presented by the Rhode Island Sea Grant and WCRPC.

Bob Harding, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Rural Development Council (RIRDC) introduced their organization and proposed that the WCRPC and RIRDC partner on issues of common interest. He also introduced Dorothy Reynolds, RIRDC Communications and Development Director.

Lisa Kanicki of the Westerly-Pawtucket Chamber of Commerce presented findings from a recent local business study conducted by the Chamber, and described its implications for the region.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Lori Urso, Board Secretary

April 18, 2002