

**RIEEA Board Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

Board Members Present: Elisabeth Bux, Molly Allard, Samantha Polon, Wendy Fachon, Bridget Kubis Prescott, Reada Evans

Other Participants: Jeanine Silversmith (RIEEA Coordinator), Kelly Shea (GEMS-Net), Karen Bradbury (Senator Whitehouse's office), Shelli Costa (Westport River Watershed), Lauren Parmelee (ASRI), Krystal Noiseux (RIRRC), Kassi Archambault (WRWC), Gail Ahlers (Empowerment Factory), Sue Korte (Providential Gardener), Susan Delfs (Frosty Drew Nature Center)

Site: The Empowerment Factory, Pawtucket, RI

Coffee and Conversation: Due to an emergency meeting at the zoo, coffee and conversation was postponed until the next meeting.

Welcome/Introductions:

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Minutes from October 2015 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$7807.95 (\$1,015 in outstanding checks, should end with \$6792.95 once all checks are cleared)

Revenue generated was \$1,407.76

\$1K from westerly land trust

\$262.72 from b.good fundraiser

\$145.04 transferred over from paypal for memberships

Membership Report: Two new organization members: NRCD and GEMSNet

Website & Social Media update: (Chair – April Alix)

Please let Jeanine know if there are any problems or needed updates on the website.

Professional Development Committee update: (Chair – Andrea Stein)

Holding another competition with schools with DownCity Design for the 2016 Flower Show. There will be an Outdoor Classroom Workshop on Thursday, November 12.

ELP: (NEW!! Chair – Lauren Parmelee)

Shareen met with Judy of NSF. NSF is trying to fund "Anecdotes to Evidence" - a study to validate Environmental Education. This would dovetail with RIEEA's RIF grant proposal..

Organizational

Nothing to report

NEEEA Update:

Everyone reported that the NEEEA confrence in New Hampshire was a great success. EPA grant to NEEEA was approved. RIEEA will be working with the Green Building The next NEEEA annual meeting will be in Litchfield, Ct and the Wisdom House. The NEEEA subgrant may have shifted focus. Rachel and Sam to meet next week. NEEEA EPA subgrant - RIEEA to have a Workshop with architects, school designers, landscape architects, etc. Focus to be working on inside to outside flow. Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2016. Ken Balarski, US Green Building Council to be involved. Workshop will be designed for lots of voices and lots of input.

GEMS-Net NSF grant:

Implementation and Improvement of Place-Based Education
At College level - for teacher certification, two tracks: 1) formal to include classroom student teaching; 2) informal to include internships
Both will include collaboration with informal educators

2016 Flower Show, Feb 18 to 21, 2016

Zoo to help with drop off and pick up of materials for 5th floor Adventure Zone
RIEEA members will present 30-45 minute presentations in the Rotunda
Vignettes will be mailboxes this year. They will be in the same area as the gates last year.
Still working on the MOU

2016 Annual Meeting, January 12, 2016 @ RIC

Theme: In-service Teachers Successfully Implementing Outdoor Learning
Elisabeth presented the to-do list. Annual Meeting planning meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 24.

Next meeting – Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at South Kingstown Land Trust Barn, 17 Matunuck Beach Rd, South Kingstown. 9:00 am.

2016

Need to set annual meeting site in Sept 2015
Next spring RIEEA meeting or pd workshop could be scheduled to coincide with GEMS-Net Leader workshop.
Land and Water Summit, Saturday, March 19, 2016