



**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed
Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council
Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, June 25, 2025, 5:15 pm to 7 pm

*Westerly Land Trust,
449 Westerly Bradford Rd, Westerly, RI 02891*

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87424194933?pwd=iDWWevLzXVeGMgGJYJFzSJWpNpLRi5.1>

Meeting ID: 874 2419 4933

Passcode: 992808

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Abbreviations:

Attendance:

Justin Andrade, Charlestown, RI
Bob Maietta, Charlestown, RI (I&E Committee, Co-Chair)
Nan Quinlan, Exeter, RI (Projects Committee)
Harvey Buford, Hopkinton, RI (I&E Committee)
Ahren Cohen, North Kingstown, RI (Council Treasurer)
Elaine Caldarone, North Stonington, CT (Council Vice Chair, Projects Committee Chair, I&E Committee)
Madeline Jeffery, North Stonington, CT (Projects Committee, I&E Committee Co-Chair)
Antonia Bryson, Richmond, RI (Council Chair, Advisory Committee Co-chair)
Fred Wagner, Stonington, CT (Advisory Committee)
William Gay, Voluntown, CT
Bob Madison, Westerly, RI
Lauren Bonatakis, NPS
Catie Alves, STB
Harvey Perry, TNC
Chris Fox, WPWA
Casey Merkle, Council Coordinator

Members of Public:

Fred Sculco

Morgan Reynolds, Coleman Pushlar, Toby Glaza (Avalonia Land Conservancy, LLC)

Delia Foley (STB), Jack Carlson (STB)

Call to Order: *please keep comments 1-2 minutes and on topic so all can participate in the discussion*

Secretary's Report: Approval of Minutes of May 28th, 2025 meeting

May 28 Minutes Approved with corrections.

Motion to approve revised minutes by Harvey Perry, seconded by Catie Alves. All approved.

Speaker: Tobias Glaza, Director of Stewardship, Avalonia Land Conservancy

Motion to recognize Tobias as voting member: Harvey Perry, seconded Catie Alves. Approved.

Town Representative Reports (moved to next meeting)

Committee Updates:

1. Executive Committee (Antonia Bryson, Richmond)
 - a. FY24-25 Budget Carry-Over discussed.
 - b. Federal FY25 funding is still pending. Coordination ongoing with Sen. Whitehouse's staff.
 - c. Current balance: approximately \$71,000 carry-over from \$210,000.
 - d. Reviewed budget line items: discretionary vs. non-discretionary.
 - e. Notable items:
 - i. River signs (\$3,000) remain funded.
 - ii. Briggs Park near completion, needs \$250 for signage.
 - iii. Podcast, River Friends, Hiker Safety zeroed out.
 - iv. Rain Gardens and Dragonfly Mercury Project under discussion.
 - v. Water Quality Monitoring: WPWA may cover site costs for one year.
 - f. Budget not voted on; two-week comment period established.
2. Projects Committee (Elaine Caldarone, North Stonington)
 - a. General update
3. Advisory Committee (Antonia Bryson, Richmond)
 - a. General update
 - b. Working on Hydrilla issue; letter presented to Sen. Whitehouse's staff.
4. Information & Education Committee (Co-Chair Madeline Jeffery, North Stonington & Co-Chair Bob Maietta, Charlestown)
 - a. Budget submitted; letter read and attached.

Working Group Updates:

1. Kenyon Mills Working Group (Denise Poyer, Richmond)
 - a. Two proposals reviewed; recommendation to award grant to Shanock LLC for stormwater improvements.
 - b. Concerns noted about long-term public access.
 - c. Motion to award by Harvey, seconded by Sharon.
 - d. All approved. 18-month project timeline accepted.
2. Wild Brook Trout Working Group (Bob Maietta, Charlestown)
 - a. Next meeting is July 10, 2025.

Partner Updates:

1. CT DEEP
2. NPS: Cooperative agreement under review; hopeful for approval by Sept 30.
 - a. Dragonfly Mercury Project: NPS can lead 1 site. Volunteers needed. Decision deadline: June 26.

- i. Volunteers: Sharon, Fred, Bob M., Harvey B., Coleman P.
3. RI DEM
4. Save the Bay: Interns supporting Story Map and water quality efforts.
 - a. DOH found PFAS in Bradford Mill Site fish; consumption warning issued.
 - b. July 1: NRCS flood protection presentation (10–11am).
 - c. State's Coastal Resilience Plan being revised. Reps encouraged to share concerns.
 - d. July 1 from 10-11, presentation from NRCS-USDA on Flood Protection project in the WP watershed. Harvey Buford will be in attendance.
5. Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association
6. The Nature Conservancy
7. Westerly Land Trust

Good of the Order:

Public Comment:

Next Meeting: **July 23, 2025, 5pm-7pm**

Adjourn: **Motion to adjourn by Bob Madison, seconded by Catie Alves. Adjourned at 7:06pm.**

Attachments:

1. Minutes of May 28th meeting
2. Proposed FY24-25 Budget Carry-Over Request for discussion
3. Kenyon Settlement Awards Decision