

# SNHRC&D

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AREA

Cheshire Hillsborough Merrimack Rockingham Strafford Sullivan

*Meeting of the Board of Directors  
February, 13, 2009  
The Concord Center, Concord, NH*

*Board Members Present: Webb Palmer, Chairman, Bob Spoerl, Vice  
Chairman, Win Robinson, Kerrie Diers*

*NRCS Staff: Hollie Umphrey, SNHRC&D Coordinator,  
Rick Elsmore, Asst. State Conservationist -Operations.*

*Guests: Teena Hayden and Thandi Tshabangi-Soko, International Inst. of NH  
Paul Doolittle, Sun Point Farms; Helen Costello, NH Food Bank;  
Per Garp, grower; Julia Steed Mawson, UNH Coop. Extension;  
Bob Dabrowski, Candia Vineyards.*

*Due to excused absence of the treasurer and secretary, there were no minutes of the last meeting or treasurer's report to accept.*

*The meeting discussed several topics, as follows:*

- 1. The lack of progress on the Conservation Innovative Grant, 2007 Wool Project and absence of a clear direction for moving forward were discussed. On motion by Bob Spoerl and second by Win Robinson, the Board voted to turn back the remaining \$47,500 to the NRCS.*
- 2. Rick Ellsmore discussed the future Conservation Innovation Grant sign up for 2009 and the requirements of the program. He also updated the Board and guests on the Farm Bill programs and the status of the NRCS budget.*

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3. *Hollie gave an update on efforts to build partnerships with the UNH Cooperative Extension , the NH Food Bank, and the International Institute of*

*Refugee Farmers. There was a discussion of the community gardens project and of the need for more land in the Manchester and Concord areas. Bob Spoerl offered assistance with state species for seedlings from the state lab. Per Garp, a vineyards grower , also offered various plants from his farm for the community gardens. Julia Steed Mawson from UNH Coop. Extension spoke of the need for land with security , such as lighting and fenced areas, and for transportation, water source and shade. Due to the length of the meeting, the group agreed to meet again prior to the next board meeting, to discuss the community gardens project and present ideas to the Board.*

*The Spring Meeting of the New England RC&D is in Portland Maine on March 28<sup>th</sup>, but since no one from SNHRC&D is planning to attend, we will rely on North Country RC&D for representation.*

*The next Board Meeting will be on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 in the first floor conference room, so please either bring lunch or purchase in the first floor deli.*

*Meeting adjourned At 1:45.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Secretary, SNHRC&D*