

**SENSE OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING
THE SCALZI RIVERWALK NATURE PRESERVE
STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEERS
FOR THEIR WORK IN CREATING A NATURE PRESERVE
FOR STAMFORD RESIDENTS**

WHEREAS, the Scalzi Riverwalk Nature Preserve Stewardship is an informal group of community volunteers and Bartlett Arboretum-based Master Gardeners formed in 2009 with the City's blessings to aid the Land Use Bureau and the Parks Department in restoring and maintaining the City land along the Mill River adjacent to Scalzi Park as a wildlife sanctuary; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years this small group of dedicated volunteers has invested over 8,500 hours in transforming 6.5 acres of City land into a successful urban wildlife refuge for water and forest animals ranging from hawks and egrets to turtles and minks; and

WHEREAS, this work has been done with minimal cost to the City; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship has also founded a Native Plant Propagation Lab at the Bartlett Arboretum to raise local native plants for area conservation groups, schools and parks, and for sale to benefit the Bartlett Arboretum; and

WHEREAS, the Stewardship volunteers have received several honors and awards for their outstanding work in conservation, including the Stamford Land Trust's first annual conservation award, given to a "person or group who has made a significant contribution to the natural environment"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 29th Board of Representatives congratulates the Scalzi Riverwalk Nature Preserve Stewardship volunteers for their work in restoring and maintaining this urban nature preserve for benefit of the City of Stamford and its residents.

*Approved by the 29th Board of Representatives
This 5th day of January, 2015*

Randall M. Skigen, President

Annie M. Summerville, Clerk