



# Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission  
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

Wednesday, February 27, 2019  
Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** 5:17 pm

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, Dinalyn Spears (6:45 pm), Jim Turek

**Absent:** Mary Doo

## **Approval of Minutes**

Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Lesley Bietz, to approve the January 9, 2019 meeting minutes with minor edits. **Motion passed.**

## **Communications**

Received membership renewal request from the Rhode Island Tree Council.

**Motion:** David Johnson motioned, seconded by Lesley Bietz to approved annual membership payment to the RITC for \$35. **Motion passed.**

Contacted via email by Tanner Steeves, RIDEM, seeking information on the status of rare plant, sandplain gerardia at Beaver River Park. – Propose RCC site visit with Mr. Steeves.

Contacted via email by Meredith Webster regarding RCC participation in the Spring Festival event on May 18 at Town Hall. – Respond back to Ms. Webster.

Received letter documentation from Rhode Island Natural History Survey on the membership renewal. – RCC encouraged to attend the March 29 annual meeting.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Current RCC Budget balance is \$3,576.09, based on previous balance of \$3,790 less \$165 for the registration of three to attend the Land and Water Summit; \$13.91 for flyer printing of 20 color copies (Turek); and \$35 for annual membership payment to the Rhode Island Tree Council.

## **Old Business**

### **01 Earth Day Planning – Continued from January 9, 2019**

Turek confirmed with Scott Barber that the event can occur at the transfer station and DPW facility on Saturday, April 27; backup date is Saturday, May 4. We agreed to announce Earth Day event at our March 20 public outreach event. RCC agreed to purchase of two popup tents for use of the upcoming Earth Day event, plus future outreach activities. Lesley Bietz will check on costs for purchase. Dave Johnson will install sandwich board at Town Hall Green about April 15; and oversee preparation of ~60 more cleanup kits for a total of ~100 kits for Earth Day cleanup. Jim Turek will draft flyer, ready by March 20. We will need to plan for tables and chairs to be set up in front of DPW facility and inside the transfer station. Bietz will alert Vinny about the upcoming event.

**Motion:** Dave Johnson motioned, seconded by Jim Turek to authorize purchase of two popup tents not to exceed \$250. **Motion passed.**

### **02 Richmond Heritage Trail - Continued from January 9, 2019**

Jim Turek spoke with Patrick MacMeekin and Gary Casabona from NRCS regarding a potential reforestation and forest management plan for the Heritage Trail site. RCC is awaiting follow-up response on potential site visit by NRCS. Turek also spoke with Karen Pinch and Scott Barber about finishing the trail including installation of split rail fence and stone dust purchase. Scott Barber has ample wood chips to complete the western end of the trail area and finish the stone dust section for the rough graded section of the access road at the western end of the property. Turek will complete maintenance (sanding and recoating with polyurethane) of the entrance sign.

### **03 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves - Continued from January 9, 2019**

Bradner Trail – Jim Turek recommended repair of station sign at the first bridge crossing along the access trail. Work will require battery operated drill and large bolt and drill bit.

Crawley Preserve – Dave Johnson will visit the trail station signs to check on condition and any replacement needs. Report outcome to Suzanne Paton, RRLPT.

Beaver River – Need to complete sandplain gerardia site maintenance mowing with RCC weed whacker. Dave Johnson will clean and repair bluebird boxes.

### **04 RCC Public Outreach Planning – Continued from January 9, 2019**

RCC now finalizing planning of the March 20 public outreach event to discuss tree mortality and forest changes, as well as wildlife populations changes with climatic changes. We plan to hand out up to 100 seed packets, and provide refreshments including coffee and cookies. Lesley Bietz to secure tablecloth, cookies, ground coffee, and milk. We will have copies of the Earth Day flyer, as well as announcement of a need for two open commissioner positions. Jim Turek will check with Scott Barber on availability of microphone and sound system.

**05 Solar Farm and Proposed Model Ordinance – Continued from January 9, 2019**

No updates on state's draft ordinance. Jim Turek will coordinate with Shaun Lacey, new town planner.

**06 Richmond Green Energy Initiative – Continued from January 9, 2019**

No updates

**07 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from January 9, 2019**

Jim Turek will follow up with Mary Doo on updates for the blog site.

**08 Town Trees and Tree Ordinance Issues – Continued from January 9, 2019**

RCC discussed need for a town forest management plan. We plan to include state participation. Jim Turek met with Karen Pinch and Scott Barber on February 27 to discuss potential strategy and fund sources for completing a forest management plan.

**09 Town Recycling – continued from January 9, 2019**

Lesley Bietz recommends that we secure information on the amount of aluminum being recycled for Richmond.

**10 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – continued from January 9, 2019**

The Town is still waiting on RIDOT for a commitment to the SWM design study.

**11 Town Comprehensive Plan- continued from January 9, 2019**

Jim Turek met with Karen Pinch about the need to include forest management and climate change in the updated Comprehensive Plan.

**12 Camelot Estates Fishway – continued from January 9, 2019**

No updates

**New Plans and Submittals:**

None

**Other Business:**

None

**Next Meeting:** The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 7 p.m.**

**Adjourn:** Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David Johnson to adjourn meeting at 6:59 pm. **Motion passed.**

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James D. Turek". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James D. Turek". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Attest: