



# Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission  
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

Wednesday, March 13, 2019  
Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** 7:11 pm

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, Jim Turek, Mary Doo (late)

**Absent:** Dinalyn Spears

## **Approval of Minutes**

Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David Johnson, to approve the February 27, 2019 meeting minutes with minor edits. **Motion passed.**

## **Communications**

Patrick MacMeekin, NRCS contacted Chairperson Turek via email to inquire about a potential restoration project at the Richmond Heritage Trail property.

Sandy Chartier from the Chariho Lions Club contacted the RCC regarding their participation in the Earth Day cleanup.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Current RCC Budget balance is \$3,412.60, based on purchase of two popup tents totaling \$135.98 and one easel with cost of \$17.99.

## **Old Business**

### **01 Earth Day Planning – Continued from February 27, 2019**

Dave Johnson ordered two orange popup tents for use in Earth Day and other RCC events. Jim Turek will draft up event flyer for review and printing; flyers should be available for posting in early April. Chariho Lions Club contacted Turek regarding their interest in volunteering in the Earth Day cleanup. Johnson will bring up the sandwich board during third week in April for Lesley Bietz to add event lettering. Johnson to put out the sandwich board on Town Green on April 15, or thereabouts.

### **02 Richmond Heritage Trail - Continued from February 27, 2019**

Turek visited the site in early March, noting signs of vandalism; vehicle tracks across front grassed areas with significant rutting. Four-wheel vehicle tracks on stone-dust trail and boardwalk. Town Police Chief and Town Administrator were notified. Dave Johnson suggested new sign for site entrance: "Trailhead ->". RCC also needs to install a dog-on-leash sign at site entrance. Turek also walked the property to inspect potential storm damage. One large whir pine has fallen across the trail at the west end of the site, in close proximity to the intermittent stream crossing location; Turek requested DPW to clear with chain saw. Turek was contacted by NRCS, and Patrick McKeekin indicated that he plans to visit the site for a potential reforestation project and management plan that could be funded in part by this federal agency.

**03 Beaver River Assessment - Continued from February 27, 2019**

RCC has requested \$10K from the Town through the Capital Budget. This funding request would serve to meet the 25% match requirement for the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program (NBEP)-SNEP grant solicitation. The pre-proposal is due April 2, noon. Turek will forward copies to Town Administrator and Town Planner and RCC. This fund request is to be put on the Town Council meeting agenda to secure Town Council approval. The pre-application needs to be submitted by the deadline which occurs prior to the next Town Council meeting. If Town Council does not approve of the funding request and/or pre-proposal, the submittal will be withdrawn.

**04 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves - Continued from February 27, 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 – Turek will visit the trail station signs to check on condition and any replacement needs, plus any downed trees. 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.

**05 RCC Public Outreach Planning – Continued from February 27, 2019**

The March 20 evening presentations by RIDEM on trees and wildlife are ready to go. Plenty of interest by the public. Turek will bring laptop and projector. Dave Johnson will check on a microphone system at the Clark Library. Lesley Bietz will bring the water, drinks and snacks. Johnson will bring Earth Day cleanup kit for the Earth Day event. Need signup sheet for the Earth Day cleanup.

**06 Solar Farm and Proposed Model Ordinance – Continued from February 27, 2019**

Dave Johnson will contact Arlene Sweet, Exeter Town Planner regarding solar farm ordinance developed in their town. Ms. Sweet presented at the Land and Water Summit, and provided valuable information relevant to solar farm issues in Richmond.

**07 Richmond Green Energy Initiative – Continued from February 27, 2019**

No updates

**08 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from February 27, 2019**

Jim Turek will follow up with Mary Doo on updates for the blog site. Need to post the Earth Day flyer.

**09 Town Trees and Tree Ordinance Issues – Continued from February 27, 2019**

RCC discussed need for a town forest management plan – Turek to discuss with the new Town Planner on March 18. Our March 20 RIDEM presentation will focus on gypsy moth mortality in white oaks, and what is the future of forest health in Richmond and other parts of South County.

**10 Town Recycling – continued from February 27, 2019**

No updates

**11 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – continued from February 27, 2019**

Jim Turek will talk with Town Planner about project: Town is still waiting RIDOT for commitment to the SWM design study.

**12 Town Comprehensive Plan- continued from February 27, 2019**

Jim Turek to speak with the Town Planner regarding status of the Plan.

**13 Camelot Estates Fishway – continued from February 27, 2019**

No updates

**New Plans and Submittals:**

None

**Other Business:**

None

**Next Meeting:** The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 10, 2019 at 7 p.m.**

**Adjourn:** Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David Johnson to adjourn meeting at 8:57 pm. **Motion passed.**

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: