



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

Wednesday, June 12, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:13 pm

Roll Call

Present: Lesley Bietz, Mary Doo, David Johnson, Pauline Streinz, Jim Turek

Absent: Dinalyn Spears

Approval of Minutes

Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Lesley Bietz, to approve the May 15, 2019, meeting minutes with minor edits. **Motion passed.**

Communications

Bill McWha contacted the RCC regarding swamp milkweed seedlings that he is growing at his home in South Kingstown, and are available to us for the Heritage Trail. Jim Turek indicated that he would contact Mr. McWha about a potential pickup date for securing the seedlings.

Treasurer's Report

Current RCC budget balance is \$973.54, based on most recent expenditures of \$150.27.

Turek contacted Scott Barber about the \$2,000 in RCC funds that may be needed for the Heritage Trail improvements. Mr. Barber indicated that some of the funds were spent by DPW on stone dust and soil at the west end of the site.

Old Business

01 Earth Day Planning – Continued from May15, 2019

No further comments; remove this item from the agenda at this time.

02 Richmond Heritage Trail - Continued from May15, 2019

RCC discussed planting shrubs around the road entrance sign. We agreed to meet on Friday, June 21 at 4:30 pm to begin work on the planting. Mary Doo agreed to provide her sweet fern stock from her yard. We also discussed adding a handicap sign at the road entrance. Jim Turek reported that DPW has been working on the

western end of the property; some of the RCC Heritage Trail funds have been spent. Barber coordinated with the Town Finance Director regarding the expenditures.

03 Beaver River Watershed Assessment – continued from May15, 2019

The Town received notice from the SNEP Narragansett Bay Estuary Program (NBEP) that we have been awarded a \$30K grant for the project. Jim Turek will attend a meeting on June 13, organized by RIDEM to discuss coldwater habitat protection in Rhode Island. The meeting will be held at the WPWA Headquarters. RCC is welcome to attend. Jim Turek will coordinate with the Town Administrator and Town Planner regarding the grant award, and will also follow up with the private donor of the matching funds.

04 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves - Continued from May15, 2019

Jim Turek tentatively plans to use the heavy cutter to remove invasive autumn olive at the Beaver River Preserve. RCC also needs to visit the Crawley Preserve to determine whether replacement of any damaged or missing station numbered plaques are needed.

05 RCC Public Outreach Planning – Continued from May15, 2019

RCC discussed other outreach events we could hold later this year. We discussed holding a mushroom forage event in the fall, perhaps led by the Three Foragers, as recommended by Pauline Streinz. Pauline will contact them about potential fall dates of availability. RCC also noted that Town is holding a public meeting on the Comprehensive Plan with a focus on open space for input on June 25.

06 Solar Farm and Proposed Model Ordinance – Continued from May15, 2019

The Planning Board meeting to discuss the Shannock proposal did not proceed as the attorney for the developer did not show up. Approximately 35 persons were present. The meeting has been rescheduled for August.

07 Richmond Green Energy Initiative – Continued from May15, 2019

No updates

08 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from May15, 2019

Mary Doo will add the notice regarding the June 25 Comprehensive Plan public meeting.

09 Town Tree and Tree Ordinance Issues – Continued from May15, 2019

DPW is seeking additional FY20 funds for dead tree removal to continue a significant endeavor to remove dead trees along town roads.

10 Town Recycling – continued from May15, 2019

RCC discussed new technology for solar garbage cans that compact trash with beep signal on cell phone when the trash bin is full.

11 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – continued from May15, 2019

No update

12 Town Comprehensive Plan – continued from May15, 2019

RCC briefly discussed the June 25 meeting to be held at Chariho Middle School where the Planning Board, Town Planner and consultant, VHB, will collect information from the public on open space issues. Jim Turek will be away on vacation, but recommended that input be provided on land protection and restoration in the Beaver River watershed.

13 Tug Hollow Conservation Development – continued from May15, 2019

No updates. RCC recommended that we remove this item from the July agenda.

14 Camelot Estates Fishway – continued from May 15, 2019

No updates

New Plans and Submittals:

None

Other Business:

None

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

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Dave Johnson to adjourn meeting at 8:58 pm. **Motion passed.**

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: