



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island
Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898



March 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Meeting at Town Hall Council Chambers

Call to Order: 6:40 pm

Roll Call:

Present: Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, David King, Dinalyn Spears, Pauline Streinz, Jim Turek

Approval of Minutes

Draft February 8, 2023 meeting minutes reviewed and discussed. **MOTION:** James Turek motioned, seconded by David King to approve with edits, comments and additions. Motion passed with two abstentions.

Communications

David Lelli contacted James Turek on February 15, regarding submittal of application to join the Conservation Commission. Town Council approval of his appointment is pending.

Treasurer's Report

A total of \$1,269.32 remains in the RCC FY23 budget. Heritage Trail account funds total \$770.30

The Land & Water Resource Summit will be held on April 8th, 2023, at URI. Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, and Pauline Streinz will attend. Deadline to submit registration is March 24, 2023. Jim Turek will submit a voucher request to the Finance Department.

Motion: James Turek motioned, seconded by David King, to allocate \$120 for three (3) Conservation Commissioners to attend the mini Land & Water Summit on April 8. Motion passed.

Old Business

01 April 6 Public Outreach Event – continued from February 8, 2023

The Public Outreach Event will be held on April 6, 2023, from 6:30 to 8 pm. RCC members should arrive at 6 pm. URI Master Garden has been confirmed. Lesley Bietz gave an update that Madison Burke will be available for the outreach event. Pauline Streinz has confirmed Phyllis Hutnak from Indie Cycle will also participate. Each speaker will have 20 minutes to present. Lesley Bietz suggested using the Richmond Carolina Fire Station marquee to inform the community. Lesley Bietz will bring all the refreshment and the paper goods, raffle tickets purchased from staples and free seeds from the URI Master Gardner Program. Other items needed - trash cans, recyclable containers, sign-in sheet, sandwich board to advertise event, and audio visual (Dinalyn Spears will bring projector screen and projector). Jim Turek will inform Cynthia Drummond and Karen Pinch to advertise

the event. A flyer will be developed and posted on the Town’s website and Richmond Community Facebook site. Slogan for the event will read “Richmond Recycles - Come Learn from the Experts.” Jim Turek will distribute a draft flyer for other commissioners to review. Jim will speak with Scott Barber regarding event setup. David Johnson will have recycling kits available. David will also complete an inventory of all the items we have in the basement for use at the event. A compost bin will be raffled off at the event as prizes for attending the event.

02 April 22 Earth Day Clean-up Event – continued from February 8, 2023

Jim Turek will speak with Scott Barber about the Earth Day event. NRCS will be contacted for handouts. Free seeds will be available. Lesley Bietz recommended the flyer for the Earth Day event be ready by Monday, April 10 in order to post and pass out at Richmond Community health events; such as the United Way Mobile Services Van. David King and Pauline Streinz will be the leads for the Earth Day Event set up on the Friday, April 21, before the event. The following items are needed for the event: Earth Day flag/sign and sandwich board, clear bags for nip collection. RCC discussed information for nips, and advertise the “Take the Nip Challenge”.

Motion: David King motioned, seconded by Pauline Streinz, to provide compensation for Densie Turek for designing graphics for the public outreach and Earth Day clean-up event. **Motion passed with one recusal.**

03 Beaver River Park Funding Awards from WPWSRSC – continued from February 8, 2023

The Town received the WPWSRSC grant award. Jim Turek will follow up with Kassi Donnelly regarding the agreement/contract. Jim will review draft contracts and coordinate with Karen Pinch. The Town received both awards, totaling \$6,251. A total of \$4,000 has been awarded for invasive plant management, and \$2,251 was awarded for installation of two educational signs at Beaver River Park. One sign will focus on groundwater information, preparing a groundwater graphic with a cross section through the soil, grassland and link to the river. The other sign will focus on the ecological services of the Beaver River. Dinalyn Spears will assist with a groundwater graphic. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the invasive plant management will require quotes from three contractors.

04 Richmond MRP: Discussion on potential projects supported by RCC – continued from February 8, 2023

Shaun Lacey contacted Jim Turek regarding planning for grant funding available for the Town. A meeting needs to layout the request and specific projects that the Town should advance for funding, what are the most important project goals, and to develop a list of projects that can be implemented in the grant period.

Activities discussed:

- clean up trees around the power lines or leaning over the road - high hazard
- resident cooling center during heat waves
- shallow wells/water supply
- culverts and other flooding issues

New Plans and Submittals

None

Other Business

None

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **April 12, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Pauline Streinz, to adjourn meeting at 8:20 pm.

Motion passed.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Turek".

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Turek".