



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



**Wednesday, April 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting at Town Hall Council Chambers**

**Call to Order:** 6:45 pm

**Roll Call:**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Draft April 12, 2023 meeting minutes reviewed and discussed. **MOTION:** James Turek motioned, seconded by David King to approve with minor edits. Motion passed.

**Communications**

- Shaun Lacey forwarded Planning Board info on April 6, informing us of routine business and potential projects. On April 11, Shaun sent email for input on the anticipated Town MRP grant application.
- Samantha Wilcox queried RCC about installing geo-cache site along the Richmond Heritage Trail; RCC support the geo-caching provided user safety is a prerequisite, including a disclaimer for users to follow.
- Lesley Bietz presented an article from the Providence Journal regarding a young local man, Nathaniel Cornell, who is documenting old growth pre-colonial heritage trees in Rhode Island; some of the trees he identified are located in Richmond.

**Treasurer's Report**

A total of \$1,030.86 remains in the RCC FY23 budget. Heritage Trail account funds total \$770.30 (this excludes the funds previously used by DPW for the Dog Park).

**Old Business**

**01 April 6 Public Outreach Event: Recycling – continued from March 8, 2023**

The Public Outreach Recycling event at the Carolina Fire Station went well, attended by ~20 persons. Our three invited speakers did a great job in their presentations. Improvements were made to the Fire Station conference room that has greatly improved this venue for future meetings. The RCC raffled off a compost bin for persons attending the event. One bin was raffled off successfully to resident Denise Kowalewski.

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

Lesley Bietz and David Johnson will work on getting the sandwich board prepared and installed on the Town Green. Pauline Streinz and Lesley Bietz will put out hardcopies of the Earth Day flyer. Jim Turek will contact Scott Barber to secure three tables for the clean-up central on the Town Hall porch. Jim will also coordinate with Scott on the Earth Day banner installation on the second floor of Town Hall. David King, Pauline and David G Johnson will lead the set-up for clean-up central. All should be ready by 4pm on Friday, April 21. Jim will send sign-up sheets to Lesley for printing. Lesley will have free plant seed and other materials available at the central station. Starbucks will drop-off free coffee. Jim reported that a group of homeowners from Fox Run will help to clean-up Stilson Road. Lesley will contact Karen Pinch about any potential safety issues for volunteers along Stilson Road. Jim will contact Suzanne Paton about potential borrowing of fluorescent vests from the land trust.

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

With \$4,000 awarded to the Town of Richmond for invasive plant management at Beaver River Park, the RCC contacted three potential contractors. All three firms expressed interested and received information on the work sought by the RCC. We received a bid from Right Coast Landscape and Tree (RCLT) within the requested timeframe. Another potential bidder, Dana Designs, sought to be sub-contractor (licensed herbicide applicator) to RCLT. A third firm, J Matthew Tree Service submitted a proposal after the deadline. The RCC recommended that the Town Manager and Financial Director contract with RCLT for the invasive tree management work.

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

Shaun Lacey contacted Jim Turek regarding planning for grant funding. Jim Turek will draft up list of potential projects to be included in the Town’s grant application. Shaun indicated that important improvements to KG Ranch Road to reduce significant flood risk, are needed, but funding from a SRICD grant program may be more appropriate than the state MVP grant program. Priority projects may include cooling center for heat stress relief, dead tree removal along public roads, and culverts for amphibian passageways at key wetland areas.

**New Plans and Submittals**

None

**Other Business**


None

**Next Meeting:** The next RCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **May 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Adjourn:** Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David King, to adjourn meeting at 8:29 pm.

**Motion passed.**

Submitted by:



Approved:

