



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



July 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Meeting at Town Hall Council Chambers

Call to Order: 7:11 pm

Roll Call:

Present: Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, David King, Pauline Streinz, Jim Turek, Samantha Wilcox

Absent: Dinalyn Spears,

Approval of Minutes

The draft May and June Meeting Minutes were reviewed and discussed. **MOTION:** Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David King to approve of minutes with minor edits. **Motion Passed.**

Communications

Jim Turek was contacted by Shaun Lacey, Town Planner regarding the Richmond Municipal Resilience Plan. The Nature Conservancy is leading the Town's effort, and will coordinate a stakeholders' workshop sometime this fall. Sue Anderbois who is the Climate and Energy Team Leader for TNC, and will be coordinating the upcoming workshop in conjunction with Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank which has provided funds to Richmond. The purpose is for municipalities to move forward to mitigate impacts from climate change.

Shaun Lacey contacted RCC via email regarding a scheduled Planning Board site visit to Punch Bowl Trail on July 16 to walk a proposed 8-lot subdivision that would include a vineyard in the back end of the site. Following the visit, attendees are invited to visit the applicant's existing vineyard at 18 Beaver River Road. Jim Turek will follow-up with Shaun to verify RCC attendees and secure additional information on the site visit.

RIACC has sent an invitation to our Commission inviting us to attend their Conservation Commission planning workshop as part of the Land and Water Summit. The workshop will be held at the South Kingstown Land Trust barn off Matunuck Beach Road. Pauline will attend.

Treasurer's Report

Samantha Wilcox indicated that she purchased six compost bins through the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation. Jim Turek will check with the Financial Director to ensure the \$450 expense will be charged to our FY22 Operating Expenses. The six compost bins are expected to be provided to residents who complete community services on RCC projects during FY23.

Jim Turek will rectify any remaining voucher requests relating to the remaining FY22 budget. Copies of the correspondence materials will be forwarded to Treasurer Johnson.

Old Business

01 Beaver River Park Invasive Plant Management Plan – continued from June 8, 2022

Jim Turek will follow-up with Antonia Bryson regarding potential Wood Pawcatuck Stewardship Council funding for the invasive management and/or educational signage for the park. The theme of the signage would focus on the ecological importance of grasslands and habitat connectivity with the Beaver River and associated floodplain. Ben Wollman, ecologist from Horsley Whitten, continues to develop the draft plan which is expected to be completed by early August.

02 Comprehensive Community Plan, RCC Implementation Plan Action Items - Continued from June 8, 2022

Library backpacks: RCC had discussion on the educational environmental backpacks that we are going to have at Clark Library for checkout and use by young students in our community. Dave Johnson is in possession of the materials and will complete the kits for the early fall relay to Clark Library, including an inventory list to ensure return of all materials.

The RCC also discussed the availability of a display case at the library to highlight our town's groundwater resources and protection measures. An informative display of where our groundwater comes from and the importance of safeguarding it will be the focus. Lesley will measure the case dimensions, as the library has given us the go ahead to use the case this fall. Lynn Thompson, the librarian, is our contact. Jim Turek will reach out to Lorraine Joubert regarding pertinent groundwater information that she may have available for our use.

03 Richmond Waste Stream Issues – continued from June 8, 2022

RCC discussed bringing up the plastic nip bottle issue at the upcoming RIACC workshop. Pauline Streinz will be attending and can bring up this issue at the meeting.

Eco-Depot for Richmond is scheduled for October 1, 2022.

04 Richmond Heritage Trail: Work Tasks – continued from June 8, 2022

Pauline Streinz purchased the “No mowing” signs that will be installed in late summer or early fall. Jim Turek will contact Scott Barber regarding the pollinator mowing issue with a timely approach.

05 Public Planning Outreach: Seven Rivers Event, June 25-26, 2022, Composting Strategies – continued from June 8, 2022

Seven Rivers Event: RCC discussed its participation. RCC is not prepared this year to participate. RCC discussed utilizing the Clark Library display case for public outreach information for one month or longer (please see information provided in Item #2 above).

Pauline Streinz updated the RCC that the Mushroom Walk is scheduled for September 24, 2022.

Composting strategy: Please refer to the Treasurer Report section regarding information on compost bin purchase for use in service work volunteer efforts to obtain a bin.

06 RCC Website Informational Updates - continued from June 8, 2022

Jim Turek forwarded photos of the Town Hall pollinator garden for Samantha Wilcox to post on the RCC web site. The Foraging Walk flyer will be prepared (Denise Turek) and posted to the website for the September event.

New Plans and Submittals

None

Other Business

None

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **August 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David King, to adjourn meeting at 8:48 pm.

Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: