



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

MEETING MINUTES
RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 3, 2016
RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Call to Order: 7:10 pm

Roll Call

Present: Lesley Bietz, Mary Doo, David Johnson, Joe McCue (attended Richmond Commons workshop in Town Council Chambers), Nichole Phelps, Jim Turek

Absent: Dinalyn Spears

Approval of Minutes

01 Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 6, 2016

Motion: Lesley Bietz motioned, seconded by David Johnson to accept January 6, 2016 meeting minutes with one minor edit. Motion passed.

Communications

RCC received hardcopy materials from DDM Properties via Denise Stetson; RCC requested by Town Council and Town Administrator to attend workshop in Town Council Chambers on February 3rd.

Treasurer's Report

Membership renewal due payment voucher request for RIACC membership renewal will be sent to Town Treasurer Dave Krugman. RCC letter signed by Turek will be sent to RIACC regarding recommendations on how to improve communications and collaboration with state-wide conservation commissions.

RCC budget is \$4,650.73.

Old Business

01 RIDEM Trail Grant/Trail Design and Construction – Continued from January 6, 2016

RIDEM gave Town of Richmond a 6-month extension for our grant to extend through December 31, 2016.

Rhode Island Foundation application is due February 12; funds will be available in March and must be spent by end of 2016. Jim Turek attended Town Council meeting on February 2 to present proposed Town grant application to the Rhode Island Foundation for request of \$15K for Richmond Heritage Trail, All-persons trail loop construction.

Turek had discussion with Denise Stetson regarding a scope of work (SOW) for on-call structural engineer services to evaluate proposed boardwalk and foot bridge helical support piles. Stetson forwarded the SOW to both Crossman Engineers and Fuss & O'Neill. No response from Crossman; F&O requested a brief conference call with Turek for clarification purposes. The discussion outcome was that services would likely be cost-prohibitive to the Town. No further action by F&O is requested at this time.

To resolve potential helical support concerns by bidding construction contractors or engineers, Turek conducted site visit with Dr. Mark Stolt, URI Soils Professor. Stolt and Turek completed three hand-core borings using Dutch auger; Stolt recorded soils and water table information to relate to potential worst-case freeze/frost depth. Turek also spoke with NRCS staff (Joe Bachand, John Richard) who suggested that Jim Turenne may have soil auger available to reach greater depths, if warranted. Soil sampling results will be used to put note on revised site plans, to be discussed with CJ Doyle (small amount of funds remain in budget for her assistance). Soil boring descriptions will also be available to potential construction contract bidders.

As part of the project phasing, Turek coordinated with Richmond Scout Troop #1. Paul Jarry, Troop leader, contacted Eagle Scout candidate Quintin Reynolds about his leadership project to address hiking trail needs. Quintin is interested and will meet with Turek on-site to discuss project components and his potential commitment to the project.

02 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves – Continued from January 6, 2016

Bradner Preserve – Dave Johnson planning to complete bluebird box retrofits by April 1st. Turek noted that rooftop of one box was found broken during park walk last week. Joe McCue will schedule date for completing autumn olive cutting and concurrent herbicide application during early growing season. Turek will assist McCue in planning and scheduling the vegetation management. This will be a RCC assistance project in Spring 2016.

Crawley Preserve - David Johnson walked the site on January 3, 2016, with family and noted that many of the station posts were no longer in the ground. Johnson coordinated with Land Trust on viable posting of interpretive trail numbered signs using stainless steel screws and trees, as warranted. The plaque re-installation work is scheduled for completion by mid April 2016.

Bradner Preserve – Turek will discuss graphic design software needs with Denise Turek. Mary Doo has In-design and Photoshop software for use by Denise and Abbey Paradis on the trail guide layout preparation. Johnson will contact Bill Phelps for assistance in the production of the numbered plaques. Trail guide box will also be needed. Installation of numbered plaques and guide box with guide copies is scheduled for May 2016. Dave Johnson will update Land Trust, as needed.

03 Preserve at Boulder Hills – Continued from January 6, 2016

Jim Turek attended Planning Board meeting regarding the master plan proposal. Turek queried the design engineer about proposed stormwater and wastewater management; generic responses provided by the engineer. Expressed community concerns were focused on gun use and safety, noise and traffic.

04 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from January 6, 2016

Mary Doo will finish the butterfly metamorphosis article; check with Dinalyn Spears on the vernal pool and plant pest articles.

05 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued from January 6, 2016

No update

06 Town Recycling – Continued from January 6, 2016

Lesley Bietz indicated that e-waste is available at the Farmers' Market at the Carolina Fire Station on February 27th, 9 am - noon. Bietz will confirm schedule and accepted materials and procedures for drop-off.

07 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – Continued from January 6, 2016

No update

08 Camelot Estates Fish Passage – Continued from January 6, 2016

No Update

09 URI Private Well Water Workshop - Continued from January 6, 2016

Jim Turek sent email to Allyson McCann verifying that the Carolina Fire Station conference room has been reserved for the March 14 workshop. Allyson indicated that URI is distributing electronic flyers. The flyer has been added to both the Town web site, and RCC blog site (thanks Mary Doo). RCC needs to post hardcopies of the flyer around Town and beyond. Turek will follow up with McCann about the water sample drop-off protocol (date, time, and location) following the workshop.

10 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from January 6, 2016

RCC proposes to hold Environmental Awareness Day to coincide with Swamp Yankee Day (October 2016?). Nichole will verify with Scott Barber or others about RCC participation.

11 FY17 RCC Proposed Budget - Continued from January 6, 2016

Turek submitted RCC proposed FY17 budget to Treasurer Krugman. The request includes proposed \$3,000 to cover potential contingency costs (e.g., As-built survey) for the Richmond Heritage Trail. Request also includes

training registration fee cost coverage (Assume 3 X \$50= \$150). This item can be removed from next RCC meeting agenda.

12 Shannock Falls Development - Continued from January 6, 2016

Turek attended Planning Board hearing. The proposed development was, in general, well received by the public including Shannock residents attending the hearing. This item can be removed from next RCC meeting agenda.

New Business: None

New Plans and Submittals: None

Other Business: Richmond Commons – DDM Properties (Cambio) presentation and Town Workshop; concurrent event with RCC meeting on February 3, 2016; Joe McCue volunteered to attend; no need to add to RCC agenda at this time since no formal plan submittal.

Next Meeting: Next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Joe McCue to adjourn meeting at 9:00 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: