



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

MEETING MINUTES
RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, April 6, 2016
RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Call to Order: 7:11 pm

Roll Call

Present: Lesley Bietz, Mary Doo, David Johnson, Joe McCue (late), Dinalyn Spears, Jim Turek

Absent: Nichole Phelps

Approval of Minutes

01 Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 2, 2016

Motion: Dave Johnson motioned, seconded by Lesley Bietz to accept March 2, 2016 meeting minutes with minor editing. Motion passed.

Communications

The RCC received a copy of the RIDEM permit application submitted by Pomona Grange owner of the Washington County Fairgrounds. The proposed construction is for an emergency access road for the fairgrounds. The project will affect 0.27 acres of wetland. RCC will need to respond by close of business on May 2, 2016.

Treasurer's Report

RCC budget is \$4,600.73 – \$16.95 = \$4,583.78.

Old Business

01 RIDEM Trail Grant/Trail Design and Construction – Continued from March 2, 2016

The Town is still waiting to hear from the Rhode Island Foundation on our grant application. Mr. Turek will complete the revised trail project budget this week. CJ Doyle to make minor plan revisions. Mr. Turek to edit the specification package. Need to submit RIDEM grant extension request to extend grant to at least the end of year and apply for more funds. RCC plans to submit materials to the Champlin Foundation for funding. Champlin Foundation may require only a one-page letter for the application. Mr. Turek will contact Karen

Pinch to inquire where we stand on the extension from RIDEM. The new grant RIDEM application is due by May 11 for the May 17 Town Council meeting. Mr. Turek received email from Quintin Reynolds regarding planning to work on the vegetation clearing. Mr. Turek will follow up with him to verify his work plan and schedule.

02 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves – Continued from March 2, 2016

Beaver River Park – David Johnson made site visit and all bluebird boxes look good. The large map is missing from the kiosk and the box is empty of interpretive trail guides. Trash was removed and new bag added. Jim Turek did not hear back from Karen Pinch regarding pesticide application. Joe McCue, licensed applicator, has volunteered to apply the pesticides. Glyphosate herbicide to be applied to plants in May. RCC is awaiting comments from the Town Administrator/Solicitor regarding permission to move forward on the herbicide application following manufacturer's application methods.

Crawley Preserve – David Johnson suggested replacing station posts with stainless steel posts and recycling wooden posts. Mr. Johnson will conduct visit to document and report the condition of the posts. The Land Trust stewardship work trip was rescheduled due to poor weather conditions. The Land Trust holds regularly scheduled stewardship days where participants can attend to volunteer to upkeep trails and properties.

Bradner Preserve – RCC has completed the trail guide. Mary Hutchinson completed the scaled map insert for the trail guide. Joe McCue will follow up with Mary Hutchinson regarding a larger printed map for the kiosk. David Johnson recommended the purchase of a router kit for completing the trail station signs.

Motion: David Johnson motion seconded by Jim Turek to purchase router lettering guide set plus accessories - bit and bushing; for completing sign station plaques for existing and future open space projects; with costs not to exceed \$150 dollars. Motion passed.

03 URI Private Well Water Workshop - Continued from March 2, 2016

The Private Well Water Workshop was a huge success. Approximately 40 participants attended. We had a highly interactive session with many thoughtful questions from the participants. Mary Doo to follow up on the URI Groundwater sheets.

04 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from March 2, 2016

Dinalyn Spears submitted a draft vernal pool article for review by RCC. Mary Doo will finish the butterfly metamorphosis article.

05 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from March 2, 2016

RCC received query from Town Administrator regarding potential cleanup. Lesley Bietz is willing to be available Earth Day weekend on Saturday, April 23 to hand out cleanup bags to residents who want to participate. Town Administrator queried RCC regarding potential interest by persons who would be willing to clean up the Town Hall flowerbeds. Bietz and Johnson will complete the inventory of the bags and other supplies. Mary Doo will send out an e-blast and Turek will place the sandwich board out on the town green.

06 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued from March 2, 2016

Jim Turek will send a copy of the Town’s tree ordinance to National Grid to lessen the likelihood of tree loss along town roads.

07 Town Recycling – Continued from March 2, 2016

Eco-depot will take place in Richmond on October 15, 2016. Styrofoam drop-off dates are April 18: Middletown, May 7: Narragansett, July 9: Westerly, and September 17: North Kingstown. Mary Doo will add information on the upcoming dates on the RCC blog site. No update on recycling signage at transfer station.

08 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – Continued from March 2, 2016

No update; RCC is awaiting response from Town Administrator.

09 Camelot Estates Fish Passage – Continued from March 2, 2016

No update; Jim Turek will conduct site visit to verify flow conditions at dam spillway and through fishway.

New Business: Pomona Grange wetlands permit application

New Plans and Submittals: None

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Dave Johnson motioned, seconded by Mary Doo to adjourn meeting at 9:03 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: