



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

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

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

Roll Call

Present: Lesley Bietz, David Johnson, Joe McCue, Jim Turek, Dinalyn Spears, Nichole Phelps (late 7:55 pm)

Absent: Mary Doo

Guest: Kimberly Steere, Sam Steere, Ethan Gallagher – boy scouts for the communications merit badge – listening in on the issues and seeking volunteer opportunities

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 8, 2016

Motion: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Lesley Bietz to accept June 8, 2016 meeting minutes with minor edits. Motion passed.

Communications None

Treasurer's Report

Fiscal year 2016 budget ends with calculated \$6.49. Jim Turek will request the approved FY 2017 budget from the Town Treasurer.

Old Business

01 RIDEM Trail Grant/Trail Design and Construction – Continued from June 8, 2016

Trail markers for the walking trail still need to be installed. RCC will follow up with Quinton Reynolds for paperwork and signature. Jim Turek will work with Karen Pinch to revise the bid package. The new bid package will be released for building the handicap trail, boardwalk, bridges and remaining components. Bid package will be released in late July or August. Jim Turek communicated with Sandy Neuchatz (historian), who is interested in assisting with heritage signs and historical aspect of the site and Richmond area. Mr. Neuchatz will work with Jim Turek and David Johnson to develop the heritage sign content. Information will also be collected on the first peoples of the region.

02 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves – Continued from June 8, 2016

Beaver River Park – pamphlet trail box still needs to be repaired and reinstalled.

Crawley Preserve – three station posts need to be repaired. Station 5 and 6 are broken.

Bradner Preserve – David Johnson gave an update on the station designs and plaques. RCC reviewed the numbered station signs at the meeting. At least eight will be placed on posts and the remainder will be placed on trees. The sign post installation will be a volunteer project for the two scouts who are in attendance at the RCC meeting.

Maps – Jim Turek provided an update that Mary Hutchinson produced the Bradner and Beaver River final maps. The Bradner map layout is 17 x 22 inches. Maps are now completed and they are ready for print. A meeting with Denise Poyer from the Land Trust and Denise Stetson will be held on Monday, June 27, to discuss the content and format of the maps. Jim Turek, David Johnson will attend. Lesley Bietz recommended a budget line item each year for printing the maps of the trails to replenish supplies.

Sam Steere, guest has scout project idea – scouts can rehabilitate the wooden structures and buy new swings at Beaver River Park. RCC recommended that he contact the Town Administrator or Town's Recreational Committee. He should also bring his idea via a letter to Town Council.

Joe McCue will continue with the treatment of removing the invasive plants at the site. The scouts will volunteer their assistance for the invasive plant removal.

03 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from June 8, 2016

The Eco-Depot/Styrofoam Day will be held in Westerly on Saturday, July 9. Jim Turek will prepare an update on the Heritage Trail project. Nichole will work on a gypsy moth caterpillar article over the next two weeks.

04 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from June 8, 2016

RCC discussed holding an event during Swamp Yankee days or have a cleanup in September. RCC discussed who will staff a booth during Swamp Yankee days if this is the committee's decision. Potential themes were discussed. The RCC determined it is best to highlight our activities. RCC also considered polling attendees to determine interest in going on a hike at one of the preserves. This effort will include coordinating with the Richmond Land Trust. We discussed potential geo-caching event. Commissioners should have any other ideas brought forward at the next meeting. Lesley Bietz will contact the "Beeman" and secure information on the dates for the upcoming Swamp Yankee days.

05 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued from June 8, 2016

Jim Turek will contact Karen Pinch about the status of the Town's tree warden contract.

06 Town Recycling – Continued from June 8, 2016

Eco depot event will take place in Westerly in July. Richmond transfer station's security sign has been posted. More signage may be needed to help residents deposit only acceptable recyclable materials. RCC discussed seeking a student to put together a YouTube video on recycling. Nichole Phelps will take the lead on the YouTube video creation.

07 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – Continued from June 8, 2016

Jim Turek will follow up with Karen Pinch.

08 Camelot Estates Dam and Fish Passage – Continued from June 8, 2016

Jim Turek will follow up with Karen Pinch.

09 Old Castle Lawn and Garden Expansion plans – Continued from June 8, 2016

Jim Turek will follow up with Denise Stetson.

New Business: None

New Plans and Submittals: None

Other Business: Jim Turek to follow up with Karen Pinch regarding the watering of the Town Green and pollinator garden.

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 2, 2016, at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Nichole Phelps motioned, seconded by Joe McCue to adjourn meeting at 8:40 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by: Dinalyn Spears

Approved: 

Attest: 