



# Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission  
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
Tuesday, August 2, 2016  
**RICHMOND TOWN HALL**

**Call to Order: 7:15 pm**

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** Mary Doo, David Johnson, Joe McCue, Jim Turek, Dinalyn Spears

**Absent:** Lesley Bietz, Nichole Phelps

## **Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 6, 2016

**Motion: Dinalyn Spears motioned, seconded by Joe McCue to accept July 6, 2016 meeting minutes with minor edits. Motion passed.**

## **Communications**

Received package from Denise Stetson, dated July 26, 2016 for preliminary plan submission for the Preserve at Boulder Hills. Public hearing will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Comments are due by September 13<sup>th</sup>. RCC will submit comments by September 2.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Total FY17 budget is \$4,850 of that \$3,000 is to cover an as-built survey by PLS and Heritage Trail-related for potential contingencies. Reduce funds by \$250.78 for the maps, lexon glass, and paint brushes (Turek). \$1,599.22 remains in current RCC budget.

## **Old Business**

### **01 RIDEM Trail Grant/Trail Design and Construction – Continued from July 6, 2016**

Jim Turek met with Karen Pinch, Scott Barber, and Denise Stetson on the Heritage Trail. No response from RIDEM about the status of the grant application. Karen Pinch will query Lisa McGreavy about the status of the grant proposal. Issues discussed at the meeting were: the adjacent developer has cleared the ridge and has regraded an area bordering the trail entrance in order to sell the property which is next to Heritage Trail project. The town discussed the need to relocate the gate further west on the owners property. Scott Barber and Jim

Turek will meet on-site to further discuss project construction needs. Jim Turek informed the RCC that Scott Barber's DPW employees will address the ditch fill or foot crossing task, using culvert and pressure-treated material for the end walls. Jim Turek will secure information from Barber on pricing of the plastic-coated fencing for the trail bridges. DPW will pick up stone dust (200+ yards) from the quarry in Johnston. Compost will be supplied and delivered by contractor (575 yards). Picnic table will be purchased by the town. Education plaque installations will be an alternate item in the bid (Denise Stetson relayed information that there is an historic grant solicitation available now that could be applicable to the educational plaques). The parties discussed renaming the bid request to something more like "trail construction services" to alert a greater number of potential bidders, not limited to landscape firms. Potential schedule: August 15: release request for bid; on August 22, non-mandatory site walk. Bids due September 9. This project will need to be an agenda item for the Town Council meeting to secure approval of awarding bid (potentially at the September 20 Town Council meeting). Jim Turek signed off on Quintin Reynolds project for his Eagle Scout award. There is more interest from the Richmond troop scouts to volunteer with the Heritage Trail project.

## **02 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves – Continued from July 6, 2016**

**Beaver River Park** – Joe McCue – plans to continue treatment (spraying/clipping) on either Sunday, August 7 or Saturday, August 13.

**Crawley Preserve** – David Johnson will make the new stations plaques to replace the broken and other ones at the preserve.

**Bradner Preserve** – Jim Turek met with Sam and Will Steere and George Steere (father), Ethan Gallagher. The scouts dug holes for the posts and installed them. All the holes were covered with the soil and top with the leaves. Jim Turek and David Johnson set the initial plaque. David Johnson placed the remaining medallions and installed post 4 on the bridge. Jim Turek made water-proof signs to request preserve users to return the trail guides back in the holding box for others to use. Copies of guides will also be replaced at all preserves. The Trail map has been downloaded to the blog site.

## **03 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from July 6, 2016**

Trail map is on the blog sites. Bradner map will be updated and placed on web site. Wellwater pages, pollinators, short brief on the Bradner trail opening by Jim Turek . Add Bradner short note to RCC Facebook page and Town Facebook page.

## **04 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from July 6, 2016**

Need idea to participate in conjunction with Swamp Yankee Days. Jim Turek will discuss with Lesley Bietz. RCC discussed a theme for the event. Ideas: Host a hike at The Nature Conservancy preserve off Oak Hill Drive or other town preserve. Highlight RCC activities, pollinator issues, website/blog, preserves, a geo-caching activity, and the "Richmond Trail Challenge" – to increase use of our trails and preserves. David Johnson will work up the list of the trails and the components of the trail challenge. Dinalyn Spears will do a Google search on similar events and email to RCC. RCC discussed prize certificate, patch, or other prizes.

**05 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued July 6, 2016**

The Town has an on-call tree warden through February 2017. Information is also listed on the town website.

**06 Town Recycling – Continued from July 6, 2016**

Jim Turek – Energy Commission Board still needs to make the final decision on the power station proposed in Burrillville. There is significant opposition from the local community and many other organizations throughout the state. Petitions are being sent to the Governor Raimondo indicating this project would be contrary to cutting fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions.

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

Jim Turek spoke with Karen Pinch; RIDOT will provide the town with \$70K for stormwater management construction on the state property. Crossman Engineering, contracted through RIDOT, will still provide the design services. The \$70K is expected to be used as match for FEMA grant funds to address flooding issues.

**08 Camelot Estates Dam and Fish Passage – Continued from July 6, 2016**

We need to complete file review regarding the stipulations of the agreement to see what entity is responsible for operation and management of the dam and fishway (developer or town). Jim Turek will follow up with Karen Pinch to discuss conditions and then forward to Karen Ellsworth for input.

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

Richmond Planning Board approved the project. This item can be removed from the next meeting agenda.

**New Business:** None

**New Plans and Submittals:** Preserve at Boulder Hills

**Other Business:** None

**Next Meeting:** The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 28, at 7 p.m.**

**Adjourn:** Jim Turek motioned, seconded by David Johnson to adjourn meeting at 8:53 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: