



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898
MEETING MINUTES
RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 28, 2016
RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Call to Order: 7:15 pm

Roll Call

Present: Lesley Bietz, Mary Doo, David Johnson, Joe McCue, Jim Turek

Absent: Nichole Phelps, Dinalyn Spears

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Meeting Minutes from August 02, 2016

Motion: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Mary Doo to accept August 2, 2016 meeting minutes with minor edits. Motion passed.

Communications

Received package from Denise Stetson on revised Meehan Subdivision plans

Treasurer's Report

\$1,599.22, less \$9.14 (Turek purchase of interpretive trail and kiosk materials) = \$1,590.08 remains in RCC budget.

Old Business

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

The Town received word that we were unfortunately not awarded a RIDEM Large Recreation Grant. However, as previously noted, the Town Council approved the use of Town recreational funds up to \$150K for implementing the trails project. The Town was also contacted by the Rhode Island Foundation (RIF), requesting a progress report on the project. Turek will work with the Town Administrator to prepare and submit a letter, including grant extension request through June 30, 2017 to expend the RIF funds and complete the project. Andrew DeAngelis has committed to working on the trails project to complete his Eagle Scout project. He met with Turek and has prepared his Work Plan for final approval. He has also requested approval from the Town

Administrator to access the site with his scout team for completing the various work activities. As part of his project, he seeks assistance with GIS mapping and printing materials from Joe McCue.

Turek is completing the revised contract bid materials, and will coordinate with the Town Administrator and DPW Director to finalize the package.

The Town DPW has begun work on the former drainage ditch located along a section of the foot trail. This work will be completed to improve upon trail user safety, reduce trail project costs, and improve site aesthetics.

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

Beaver River Park – Joe McCue completed herbicide application on August 13. On September 20, McCue met with URI Invasive Species Research, Management and Policy class to remove autumn olive and treat stumps with herbicide. A total 27 students participated, and McCue provided brief presentation; he will follow-up with short article with photograph for RCC blog site. McCue is also planning to draft and update a grassland management plan for the Beaver River site. Once drafted, we can seek input from Chris Raithel (RIDEM), Scott Barber (DPW) and others. We discussed contacting Scott Barber about a brush hog clearing of remaining autumn olive and other woody species. Next work day is scheduled for Sunday, October 23rd. For the property trail, Turek recently installed interpretive trail guides at the site.

Crawley Preserve – David Johnson will complete the new stations plaques to replace the broken and other ones at the preserve; he will be set to install, soon. Turek recently installed interpretive trail guides at the site.

Bradner Preserve – Turek recently installed interpretive trail guides at the site.

03 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from August 2, 2016

McCue will prepare brief article on the invasive plant management at Beaver River Park grassland. Turek will provide Doo with the updated maps for Bradner and Beaver River Park for Mary Doo to post on the blog site.

04 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from August 2, 2016

Lesley Bietz will request Karen Pinch to post event schedule on Town Facebook page. RCC briefly discussed 2017 event such as speaker from the Wild Plant Society or a mushroom expert. Bietz will look into speakers' list and report back at the next meeting.

05 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued August 2, 2016

Turek notified Denise Poyer, RRPLT that two trees have fallen across the trails at the Crawley Preserve, and maintenance work with chain saw is required. Dave Johnson will follow-up with Poyer to verify she is aware of and will address this issue.

06 Town Recycling – Continued from August 2, 2016

Eco-Depot in Richmond is scheduled for October 15, 8am – 2pm. Dave Johnson will put out sandwich board sign at Town Hall and speak with Karen Pinch regarding recycling opportunities at: Pamona Grange and the Washington County Fair; Richmond and Chariho Schools; and the reopened I-95 Welcome Center.

07 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – Continued from August 2, 2016

No updates from Karen Pinch

08 Camelot Estates Dam and Fish Passage – Continued from August 2, 2016

No updates

09 Preserve at Boulder Hills – Continued from August 2, 2016

Dave Johnson attended the Town Council meeting presentation on the project. The meeting focused on a proposed change to the Town’s Comprehensive Plan which is needed before a zoning change could occur. A number of audience attendees were opposed to the project due to noise and gun safety issues. The Town Council continued the meeting to another later date. The RCC previously submitted comments on the proposed development.

New Business: None

New Plans and Submittals: Meehan Subdivision

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 26, at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Joe McCue to adjourn meeting at 9:20 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: