



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island



Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898

MEETING MINUTES

RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

RICHMOND TOWN HALL

Call to Order: 7:15 pm

Roll Call

Present: Mary Doo, David Johnson, Joe McCue, Nichole Phelps, Jim Turek

Absent: Lesley Bietz, Dinalyn Spears

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 28, 2016 – No action taken on draft meeting minutes, since hardcopies were not available for meeting

Communications

- Denise Stetson, sent materials, dated October 6, on revised Meehan Subdivision plans for review and comment.
- Denise Poyer, RRLPT, queried about potential assistance from scout(s) to work slope erosion control at the Bradner Preserve trail entrance
- RINHS sent membership renewal form for annual membership.

MOTION: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Nicole Phelps to approve payment of \$100 annual membership fee. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

\$1,590.08 remains in RCC budget, plus \$3,000.00 in Heritage Trail funds for survey needs

Old Business

01 RIDEM Trail Grant/Trail Design and Construction – Continued from September 28, 2016

The Town Administrator, DPW Director and Jim Turek met with Jon Aiello, Jr., Managing Partner from Richmond Realty Associates on September 30 to discuss the development of the Richmond Commons property and the property boundary along the Richmond Heritage Trail site. Mr. Aiello explained that survey monuments

and stakes had been recently installed along the eastern property line. The Town explained that we need to have accurate boundary for moving forward on construction of the trail project.

Based on the meeting with Mr. Aiello, the Town will contract with a PLS to complete limited property boundary survey and install both permanent monuments and capped rebar markers at the west of the property.

Andrew DeAngelis, Eagle Scout candidate, plans to work on the foot trail. Turek and DeAngelis will go before the Town Council on November 1 to request approval for scout volunteers to access the trail property.

Turek will complete the contract bid materials, and will coordinate with the Town Administrator and DPW Director to finalize the package for releasing in November.

David Johnson attended a grant writing workshop with the Rhode Island Council on the Humanities; the Council has two grant types with small grants up to \$2K and larger grants up to \$12K. The small grants are available at any time while the large grants have a December deadline. These grants may be applicable to the historic-focused plaque signage for the Heritage Trail.

02 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves – Continued from September 28, 2016

Beaver River Park – Joe McCue completed additional autumn olive and other woody plant management work at the grassland site on October 23. McCue is also seeking a copy of the Town’s old grassland management plan, and is willing to update or rewrite the plan based on current site conditions and uses and management techniques.

Crawley Preserve – David Johnson will install plaques to replace the broken plaques (plaques 5,7, and 12).

Bradner Preserve – The RRLPT is seeking help to address slope erosion at the entrance trail.

Stetson Preserve – Johnson helped to construct the kiosk.

03 RCC Web and Blog Sites – Continued from September 28, 2016

Mary Doo uploaded the updated trail maps for the Bradner Preserve and Beaver River Park.

There is an upcoming emerald ash borer workshop at URI which may provide important information to post to our blog site.

04 Earth Day/Environmental Awareness Day Planning, 2016 - Continued from September 28, 2016

RCC discussed a potential clean-up event in May. We also considered sponsoring a geo-caching event to encourage residents to get out to our preserves; it will be beneficial to speak with Peter Stetson who has experience with geo-caching activities. We also discussed potential trail hikes led by the RCC at one or more of the town preserves (e.g., Stetson, Saila Preserves). We will await any updates from Lesley Bietz on her query for possible event focus and location.

05 Town Tree and Ordinance Issues – Continued September 28, 2016

The Town Administrator forwarded a copy of the America the Beautiful grant solicitation. It appears that grant funding is contingent on the town having an approved tree management plan. Turek will contact RIDEM to seek further information.

06 Town Recycling – Continued from September 28, 2016

The Eco-Depot, Richmond event on October 15 has a steady line of cars bringing in materials. RCC will seek summary of results from the organizers.

07 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – Continued from September 28, 2016

No updates from Karen Pinch

08 Camelot Estates Dam and Fish Passage – Continued from September 28, 2016

No updates

09 Preserve at Boulder Hills – Continued from September 28, 2016

The Town Council voted to approve changes to the Town’s Comprehensive Plan to include the Preserve lands. The Zoning Board would approve the Preserve’s development infrastructure. No further action by RCC needed at this time, and this item can be removed from November RCC meeting.

New Business: None

New Plans and Submittals: Meehan Subdivision Plan resubmittal

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 16, at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Nicole Phelps to adjourn meeting at 9:07 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: