



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island

Richmond Conservation Commission
Richmond Town Hall, Wyoming, RI 02898
Wednesday, June 20, 2018
Meeting Minutes



Call to Order: 7:12 pm

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

David Johnson motioned, seconded by Joe McCue to approve the May meeting minutes with no revisions. Motion passed.

Communications

RCC received email from Denise Poyer from the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association requesting letter of from the RCC to the Town Council supporting the Wood-Pawcatuck River and tributaries as a federally-designated Wild and Scenic River system.

Treasurer's Report

RCC budget estimate is \$173.32 but need to verify remaining funds with the town Finance Director, Kelli Russ.

Old Business

01 Richmond Heritage Trail - Continued from May 16, 2018

Jim Turek will draft letter to the local organization(s) (e.g., Job Lot, Washington Trust Bank) for potential donation to assist with habitat restoration at the Heritage Trail. Turek will also follow up with Scott Barber requesting the installation of the hose and sprinkler system to water the wildflower area and tree planting.

02 Earth Day Planning/World Fish Migration Day 2018 – continued from May 16, 2018

Earth Day topic will be readdressed in fall 2018. Remove from the July meeting agenda.

03 Richmond Town Parks and Preserves - continued from May 16, 2018

Joe McCue will conduct invasive plant work at Beaver River Park, sometime this summer. Others on RCC seek to assist as needed.

04 RCC Public Outreach Planning for 2018 – continued from May 16, 2018

RCC discussed public outreach activities for the upcoming season. Ideas discussed included integrating conservation practices and historical information (DeCoppett property off Hillsdale Road); conducting guided tours with education; conducting land trust tours with a focus on the Saila property; conducting a mushroom walk; and holding an informational meeting on solar farms in Richmond and other parts of Rhode Island. Lesley Bietz suggested making a postcard collage to place in a tabletop plexiglass frame with the RCC postcards to increase awareness of Richmond’s heritage and the RCC. The collage could be placed in Town Hall and/or at the Clark Library. This same postcard can be sent out to the local organizations for potential funding (See Item 1, above).

05 Wood-Pawcatuck River Watershed – continued from May 16, 2018

MOTION: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Mary Doo to approve the draft letter (read by David Johnson), with minor edits, regarding the Wood Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic River Designation. Motion passed.

Letter will be sent to the Wood Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Committee. Jim Turek informed the RCC that he attended last night’s Town Council meeting where the Town Council voted and approved the designation and will send a letter to the Wood Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic River Committee supporting the designation. Richmond is now the fifth of the twelve towns in the watershed for which approval of the designation is sought.

06 Solar Farm Projects and Proposed Ordinance Revisions – Continued from May 16, 2018

RCC discussed the potential development of a public meeting on solar farm issues. David Johnson recommended that the RCC to inquire about the status of the solar issues with the town or other towns. Joe McCue stated there are specific ordinance requirements established on where solar farms can be installed. RCC will do background research and look for an expert to present at the forthcoming meeting. Jim Turek will contact EcoRI on this topic.

07 RCC Web and Blog Sites – continued from May 16, 2018

Mary Doo will update the Web and Blog sites with Earth Day and Fish Migration Day photos. Mary Doo also asked if anyone from the RCC wanted to write articles about these two events or other timely items.

08 Town Tree and Tree Ordinance Issues – continued from May 16, 2018

No updates

09 Town Recycling – continued from May 16, 2018

Lesley Bietz informed the RCC that the RIRRC recently visited the Richmond transfer station. New signs were ordered to replace the signage that has been missing at the transfer station.

10 KG Ranch Road/Valley Lodge Stormwater – continued from May 16, 2018

Jim Turek will follow up with Julianna Berry on the status of the work services proposal.

11 Comprehensive Plan- continued from May 16, 2018

Jim Turek will follow up with Julianna Berry on the status of the consultant contract for completing the plan update.

12 Camelot Estates Fishway – continued from May 16, 2018

No updates

New Plans and Submittals: The Preserve at Boulder Hills, Phase II master plan application materials will be sent by Juliana Berry for review and comment.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: The next RCC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 7 p.m.**

Adjourn: Jim Turek motioned, seconded by Dinalyn Spears to adjourn meeting at 8:58 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by:



Approved:



Attest: