

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
January 24, 2012
CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL
4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. ROLL CALL: Present: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.
- III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
- Motion to approve the minutes of the joint meeting of the Conservation Commission with the Town Council on November 9, 2011 by G. Klinger. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: H. Hultgren
 - Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 22, 2011 by G. Klinger. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 - Motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 17, 2011 by H. Hultgren. 2nd: F. Safford. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 - Motion to amend the minutes of the January 8, 2012 meeting to include the sentence “the conclusion was unanimous” at the end of section IV by G. Klinger. 2nd: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 - Motion to approve the amended minutes of the special meeting of January 8, 2012 by G. Klinger. 2nd: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
- A. Reports from Commissioners
1. L. Arnold congratulated C. Connery and R. Thieke for their re-appointment to the Commission by the Town Council at their January 9, 2012 meeting.
 2. The following officers of the Commission were elected: Chairperson: L. Arnold, Vice-Chairperson: G. Klinger, Secretary: R. Thieke. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 3. L. Arnold reported that she had forwarded a copy of the December 17, 2011 minutes to the Town Council since those minutes served as our report on the monitoring of the Town owned properties that were agreed should be monitored at our November 9, 2011 meeting with the Town Council.
 4. L. Arnold reported that she had sent a copy of the January 8, 2012 minutes to the Town Council on January 11, 2012 since those minutes served as our advisory opinion on the YMCA property from a conservation perspective. L. Arnold will also give the Town Clerk answers from the Commission to the request for public records received by the Town concerning the January 8, 2012 site walk and advisory opinion.
 5. Eagle Scout project for Nick Wollenberg – decided to ask him to Jo-max the parts of the sheep barn at South Farm where there is mold and then apply a clear latex wood preservation on the outside of the barn. Materials will be provided by the Commission.
 6. Signage – R. Thieke reported that he had purchased a visitor parking sign as well as no horses, ATVs, bikes and motorcycle signs for several of the properties. L. Arnold will contact Public Works Dept. to see if they have no littering signs that then can place at South Farm, Richards Trails and Schoolhouse Pond Preserves. H. Hultgren made a motion to spend up to \$100 for signs. 2nd: K. Simoneau. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

7. Website – L. Arnold reported that she had updated the Commission information on the Town website but there are parts where she could not get access and the Town Clerk will look into the problem to ensure that all updates are there.
8. Beach Structures ad hoc Committee – F. Safford reported that the pilings are in at the Town Beach and going in this week at Blue Shutters. The project is on schedule.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. The Rhode Island Land and Water Conservation Summit will be held on March 10, 2012 and Commissioners are encouraged to attend. The Charlestown Commission has been asked to make a presentation and participate in a workshop roundtable about what we do and some of our successes. There was a discussion of topics to be talked about.
- B. The February meeting of the Commission will be held on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 rather than on the 28th per unanimous agreement.
- C. The Town Council will decide on the YMCA property purchase at their February 13, 2012 meeting and all commissioners should try to attend.
- D. Aquaculture farm – R. Thieke reported receipt of a notice from CRMC that they are considering an application from William and Amanda Garrahan to construct and maintain a 0.5 acre aquaculture farm to grow oysters in cage culture and littlenecks in the bottom in Ninigret Pond.
- E. Edwards Lane project – the Commission will walk the property at a convenient date for a quorum of the members so that an advisory opinion can be submitted to the Town Council, per their request, before February 2, 2012.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Well Water Workshop – G. Klinger reported that this year it will be held on the evening of May 3 at the Cross Mills Library with instruction as to how to test well water and what labs to use. This workshop will be co-sponsored by the Commission and URI.
- B. Rain Barrels – G. Klinger indicated she will arrange for another sale when she is at the Land and Water Conservation Summit on March 10, 2012.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

- A. Motion by H. Hultgren to adjourn. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke
Secretary

Next regular Commission meeting will be held on February 29, 2012

Next special meeting will be held on January 30, 2012