

**CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**February 25, 2014**  
**Charlestown Town Hall**  
**4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM 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: L. Arnold welcomed Deb Carney.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to correct the minutes of January 28, 2014 to reflect that F. Safford was in attendance and then to approve the amended minutes of January 28, 2014 by H. Hultgren. 2<sup>nd</sup>: F. Safford. Aye: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: C. Connery, G. Klinger and K. Simoneau.
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Report of Town Council meeting on February 10, 2014 – L. Arnold and R. Thieke reported that the Council received the Charlestown Moraine Preserve Management Plan and expressed their gratitude to the Commission for their work and that they looked forward to receipt of phase two; namely our recommendation relative to easement holder. Deb Carney reiterated to the Commission her concern that the Plan as written limited uses of the property and spoke of the wording in the bond issue used for the purchase and that the issue was for open space and recreation. She was advised that the Commission had prepared the Plan in accordance with the directive received from the Town Council and they would be the ones who have to decide whether it should be revised.
  - B. Charlestown Moraine Preserve Management Plan- Phase 2 – Easement holders:

R. Thieke reviewed the list of possible easement holder received from the Town Council based on those who indicated interest at the August 22, 2013 Town Council meeting and the fact that for various reasons (as listed on the attached letter to the Town Council) all but the Charlestown Land Trust have no interest or are not eligible under RI General Law to hold such an easement. The responses received from the Charlestown Land Trust (also attached) to our questionnaire were reviewed and discussed. Motion made by R. Thieke to not recommend that the Charlestown Land Trust be granted a conservation easement on the Charlestown Moraine Preserve. 2<sup>nd</sup>: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Motion by R. Thieke to recommend to the Town Council that they accept the offer of The Nature Conservancy to help design and layout the trails and parking area at the Charlestown Moraine Preserve free of charge. 2<sup>nd</sup>: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Motion by R. Thieke to recommend to the Town Council that the Town submit to RI DEM an application for a RI Trail Improvement and Trail Equipment Grant to construct trails, a parking area and signage on the Charlestown Moraine Preserve. 2<sup>nd</sup>: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None
  - C. Monitoring 16 Town Owned Properties – tabled to our March meeting the scheduling of a time to monitor these properties.
  - D. Richard Trails trail extension – tabled to our March meeting the scheduling of a time to do this work.
  - E. Land & Water Summit – March 8, 2014 at URI – L. Arnold, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke will attend.
  - F. Affordable Housing Commission Liaison Report – F. Safford will attend their meeting on February 27, 2014.
  - G. Signage cleaning and trail walks to assess winter damage – tabled to our March meeting the scheduling of a date to do this work.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Arbor Day celebration – tentatively set for May 2 at the Charlestown Elementary School. Program will be for 4<sup>th</sup> graders and we will again distribute blue spruce seedlings to each student. Motion by H. Hultgren to allocate up to \$125 for purchase of 150 blue spruce seedlings and \$100 for purchase of a blue spruce tree to plant at the Charlestown Elementary School. 2<sup>nd</sup>: F. Safford. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
- B. CRMC Public Notice – R. Thieke reported that we have been notified that CRMC is considering an application for permission to construct an approximately 170 linear foot riprap revetment at 648A Charlestown Beach Road.
- C. Conservation Commission Budget – tabled to March meeting

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by C. Connery to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Thieke. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke  
Secretary

Next regular meeting of the Commission at Town Hall will be on March 25, 2014 at 7:00 PM.