

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 26, 2016
Charlestown Town Hall
4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Excused: C. Connery, F. Safford and K. Simoneau.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of March 22, 2016 was tabled.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Report on Sprague Property**
 - a. Management Plan: R. Thieke reported that the management plan has been completed and the final version will be sent to the members of the Town Council, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Town Solicitor, Charlestown Land Trust and DEM. The Town Council will be asked to approve the Plan at their May or June meeting.
 - b. Property will be known as Patricia Sprague Forest Preserve.
 - c. Closing on the acquisition will be in mid-May.
 - B. **Report on Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
 - a. Trail – R. Thieke reported that C. Connery, K. Simoneau and F. Safford had blown the leaves and other debris off the entire trail and also cut down any leaning or overhanging tree branches to make the trail safe for hikers.
 - b. Kiosk and road sign - H. Hultgren and R. Thieke will arrange a time to meet and put the kiosk together and get it installed. H. Hultgren will talk with F. Safford about the road sign.
 - c. Blaze trail – R. Thieke will do it when it is warm enough for the painting.
 - d. Grand opening – decided that July 9th at 11:00 AM was a good time.
 - e. Picnic tables: Motion by H. Hultgren to authorize L. Arnold to spend up to \$1000 to purchase two 6 foot picnic tables for the Preserve as well as a bench for the cemetery at South Farm. 2nd: R. Thieke. Aye: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Nay: None. One table will be placed near the parking lot and the other in the meadow.
 - C. **Report on Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
 - a. Work Day – will set a date after signage and kiosk installed.
 - b. Signage and kiosk – H. Hultgren will discuss with F. Safford when this can be done.
 - D. **South Farm Preserve**
 - a. L. Arnold will discuss with Public Works Dept. the removal of the fallen tree between the parking lot and the horse entrance.
 - b. Picnic table – agreed not to purchase another table but to move the one near the barn to the picnic area near the kiosk.
 - E. **Geocaching**
 - a. Richard Trails – L. Arnold reported that Rich DeLong had installed one at this Preserve.
 - b. Coordinator – agreed to appoint Jim Cole as coordinator of geocaches on Town property under management by the Commission. H. Hultgren agree to be the Commission point person.
 - F. **Well Water Workshop**
 - a. It is scheduled for July 12 at 6:00 PM at Cross Mills Library.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Burrillville Land Trust letter concerning proposed fracked gas-fired power plant.** Decided that since our role is that of advisors to the Town Council it would be inappropriate for us to respond to this letter but that L. Arnold, as Chair, should advise the Town Council, if it chooses, to support the Town of Burrillville in opposition to the building of the power plant.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by H. Hultgren to adjourn. 2nd: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard N Thieke, Secretary

Next Commission Meeting on May 24, 2016 at Town Hall at 7:00 PM