

**CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**May 28, 2013**  
**CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL**  
**4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. ROLL CALL: Present: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.  
Excused: F. Safford.
- III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
Motion to approve the minutes of April 23, 2013 by G. Klinger. 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Connery.  
Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: H. Hultgren and K. Simoneau. Motion to approve the minutes of May 3, 2013 by G. Klinger. 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger and R. Thieke.  
Abstain: H. Hultgren and K. Simoneau.
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
  1. Richard Trails
    - a. C. Connery reported that the initial trail has been completed and that he will go over it again with a blower to remove any loose vegetation.
    - b. Map – L. Arnold reported that the map has been made using the Town GPS. We will consider additional trails in the fall and before that L. Arnold will ask for clarification of the southern boundary of the preserve.
    - c. Trail Blazing – R. Thieke reported that the blazes should be 2x6 inches and blue color should be used because the trail is a non-motorized trail.
    - d. Signage – R. Thieke reported that we have 28 remaining Town of Charlestown Open Space signs and they will be placed on poles and placed along the preserve perimeter by H. Hultgren and himself.
    - e. Information Box – Decided the most practical way to do this would be using two small mailboxes rather than building another kiosk.
    - e-1. Motion by R. Thieke to spend up to \$150 for a 4x4x8 foot post, two mailboxes, poles and paint to complete c, d and e above. 2<sup>nd</sup>: H. Hultgren. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
    - f. Picnic table: L. Arnold will purchase it and have it delivered to F. Safford who will have it painted and placed adjacent to the parking lot.
    - g. Bird Houses: Motion by H. Hultgren to spend up to \$180 to purchase woodpecker houses for placement in the Preserve. 2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
    - h. Parking Lot Clean-up – L. Arnold reported that Public Works Dept will remove the broken branch and other wood that has fallen as a result of the winter storms.
  2. Schoolhouse Pond Preserve
    - a. Fallen birdhouse – H. Hultgren and R. Thieke will arrange to have the fallen one reinstalled and the other one put into place.
    - b. Entrance sign - tabled.
    - c. Kiosk - H. Hultgren reported the kiosk is completed but needs to be assembled and then put into place.
  3. South Farm Preserve
    - a. C. Connery, H. Hultgren and G. Klinger will complete these tasks:
      - (1) Widen the Wood Boy Scout Troop 15 trail by cutting back brush
      - (2) Weed whack around the parking lot and walls along the road.
      - (3) Clean up around the kiosk and cemetery
    - b. L. Arnold reported that the Public Works Dept has removed the hanging tree branch by the cemetery entrance as well as the dead tree on the left side of the barn. They will return and take down the tree leaning over

the barn. Motion by H. Hultgren to request that Public works also take down the tree in front of the barn but leave a 3 foot stump so as not to disturb the retaining wall. 2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

c. Sauna Stabilization – tabled.

4. Lawnmower – R. Thieke reported that it appears to be working well at this point but if it breaks down again we should consider getting a heavier duty machine.
5. Well Water Protection Workshop: G. Klinger reported that 16 people came to the workshop.
6. Plants – G. Klinger reported that she is panning to spend the authorized \$250 and is determining now the variety of plants to get and insuring they are native as well as deer resistant.
7. Arbor Day – C. Connery reported that the celebration with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Charlestown Elementary School went well. Both he and L. Arnold received thank you letters from the Chariho Superintendent of Schools. Motion by K. Simoneau to have L. Arnold contact the school principal and indicate we would like to do the same program again next year. 2<sup>nd</sup>: H. Hultgren. . Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
8. Monitor Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp – agreed to set a date at the June meeting.
9. Tree Warden – L. Arnold reported that the Budget Commission had voted not to fund the position in the fiscal 2014 Town budget.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Camp David – L. Arnold reported that the RI Dept of Transportation is turning over the camp property to the Narragansett Indian Tribe.
2. Comprehensive Plan – L. Arnold reported that the 2006 Plan is now being updated and that she will contact the Town Planner with our comments. The entire Plan will be revised in 2016.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by H. Hultgren to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke  
Secretary

Next regular Commission meeting will be held on June 25, 2013