

**CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**July 23, 2013**  
**CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL**  
**4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. ROLL CALL: Present: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.  
Excused: C. Connery
- III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
Motion to approve the minutes of June 25, 2013 by H. Hultgren. 2<sup>nd</sup>: F. Safford.  
Aye: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay:  
None.
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
  1. South Farm Preserve
    - a. L. Arnold reported that Public Works Dept will cut the vegetation along the wall on Old Coach Road when they do the rest of the road but we are concerned that there is now limited visibility when exiting the parking lot and she will ask that they do the cutting as soon as possible. After that is done, we will maintain the vegetation at a low level.
    - b. H. Hultgren reported that he and C. Connery had done some weed whacking around the parking lot and other areas and will when they can address the areas by the barn retaining wall and kiosk. The Boy Scout trail will be widened when time permits and a commission member can do it.
    - c. Concern was expressed that the wall uncovered last year along the old kitchen garden area just south of the horse entry is becoming overgrown again. Since there is hay growing there and some holes and larger stones it cannot be mowed with our lawnmower. We will consider having a landscaper come and cut that area and perhaps repair the damage so going forward it will be more visible.
    - d. Sauna – F. Safford reported that the repairs to the firebox have been done.
    - e. Lawnmower – R. Thieke reported that it is working okay and all the trails are again being cut.
  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 during fall trail maintenance.
    - b. Entrance sign and Kiosk – F. Safford and H. Hultgren will assemble and have installed with the help of Public Works Dept when time permits.
  3. Richard Trails
    - a. Trail Blazing - R. Thieke reported that it had been done.
    - b. Trail maintenance – C. Connery has completed the work.
    - c. Maps – R. Thieke reported that the map and some information about the Preserve has been completed and copies placed in the information box.
    - d. Birdhouses – will be installed in the fall.
    - e. Open Space signs – will be placed along Route 2 as well as Lewis Trail in the fall.
    - f. Boundary Signs – Motion by R. Thieke to spend up to \$60 for boundary signs to be placed along the boundary where there are abutters to the Preserve. 2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Signs will be installed in the fall.
  4. Comprehensive Plan Update – L. Arnold reported that the Planner is in the process of writing the conservation part of the Plan and will include our accomplishments since the 2006 writing.

5. Steep Slopes Bill – Commission is concerned and noted that the Town Council had sent a letter opposing its passage.
6. L. Arnold will announce at the next Town Council meeting that Richard Trails is now open and also highlight our recent accomplishments.

VI. NEW BUSINESS: None

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke  
Secretary

Next regular Commission meeting will be held on August 27, 2013