

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

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: L. Arnold, G. Klinger, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Frank Glista of the Economic Improvement Commission attended the meeting to discuss the idea of Charlestown becoming an eco-tourist destination. One of the questions he raised was the amount of open space within the Town and how the information about them can be brought together to be more assessable to residents and tourists. His Commission views the open space as a way to extent the usual tourist season into earlier in the spring and later in the fall and winter for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The Commission members expressed interest in further discussion and Frank will now talk with the Parks & Rec Commission to determine their interest and potentially create a committee of members from each of the three commissions to come up with a plan.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 2015 and January 9, 2016 by H. Hultgren. 2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, G. Klinger, H. Hultgren, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: C. Connery and F. Safford.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. Report on Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
    - a. Parking Lot – Public Works Dept. as been working on it and placed large stones around the perimeter and it appears all it needs is some form of gravel base put in and then be complete.
    - b. Trail – Completion of the trail will be done in the March-April timeframe depending on the weather.
    - c. Framing and installation of the signage – F. Safford will get the sign from Public Works and do the framing aiming for installation in April.
    - d. Kiosk – will be assembled and installed when the sign is put in place in April.
  - B. Report on Richard Trails Preserve**
    - a. Loop Trail – R. Thieke reported that due to the downed and leaning trees he had places a “closed” sign at the beginning of the trail.
    - b. New Trail – weather permitting in early spring, a new trail will be established north and west of the existing trails toward the back of the property.
  - C. Report on Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
    - a. Framing and installation of the signage – F. Safford will do the framing aiming for installation in April. Kiosk will be installed at the same time.
    - b. Work Day – will set a date at our February 2016 meeting.
  - D. Potable Water Workshop Group**
    - a. H. Hultgren reported that the Group will meet tomorrow and that he will inform the Group that the Conservation Commission will again facilitate a well water workshop.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
- A. Re-appointed to Commission:** L. Arnold reported that at the last Town Council meeting G. Klinger was re-appointed.
  - B. Arbor Day Celebration (end of April)**
    - a. Discussed possible options for the kind of celebration and where to hold it and what kind of tree to plant. Further discussion and setting of date and location will occur at our February meeting.

**C. RI Land and Water Conservation Summit on March 19, 2016**

- a. K. Simoneau will attend.

**D. Election of Officers**

- a. Motion by H. Hultgren to appoint L. Arnold as Chair, G. Klinger as Vice-Chair and R. Thieke as Secretary. 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

VII. **MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N Thieke  
Secretary

Next Commission Meeting on February 23, 2016 at Town Hall at 7:00 PM