

**CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**October 23, 2018**  
**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 G. Klinger, Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Lynn Macalister and Sandy Puchalski also attended.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of September 25, 2018 meeting was made by S. Griffin. 2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Gardiner. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: K. Simoneau.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - A. **Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp Preserve** – K. Simoneau reported all is OK.
  - B. **Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
    - a. The clean-up scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup> was held (see 10/20/18 minutes).
    - b. Parking area and western trails cleared. Balance will be done in the spring.
  - C. **Patricia Sprague Forest Preserve**
    - a. G. Klinger reported that Jeep incident had been reported and that rocks and limbs had been placed to block the presumed entrance however, G. Gardiner reported that he has seen evidence of incursion from a different area. This will be watched to determine what further action can be taken to stop it.
    - b. The kiosk is in place and C. Connery, G. Gardiner and R. Thieke will complete it on Wednesday, October 24.
    - c. Benches along trails – G. Klinger reported that the Chariho Lions wish to donate a bench. She asked them to hold off until spring so we have a better feel of the uses of the Preserve. Benches may also be considered for several other places on the trails.
    - d. Tress in the field – G. Gardiner observed that the trees (mainly white pine and cedars) are rapidly growing and if we want to maintain the area as a field we need to begin removing them. G. Klinger reported that she had spoken about this with Karen Jarret, president of Charlestown Land Trust, about her group taking on this project.
  - D. **Richard Trails Preserve** – no report.
  - E. **Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
    - a. Scheduled a workday on November 5, 2018 at 9:00 AM.
    - b. Decided kiosk will be placed at the far end of the parking lot just off the road. The Kiosk has been delivered and is temporally housed at R. Thieke home. A date for Public Works to install will be established shortly.
    - c. Consideration will be given to adding a small parking area halfway between the one by the road and the one by the pond where the trail starts. That would be where the trail ends.
  - F. **South Farm Preserve**
    - a. The clean-up scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup> was held (see 10/17/18 minutes).
    - b. C. Connery and G. Gardiner brush cut where needed along the woodland trails.
    - c. G. Klinger cleaned the kiosk and placed new photos there.
    - d. G. Klinger heard from Lisa about the black swallow wort experiment. A fungus leaf spot showed up on many of the leaves which the caterpillars did not like. The roots remained untouched. Lisa feels that the very humid weather and

mowing were the main reasons why things did not work out as planned. They will continue to work on it and hope for a better result next year.

**G. Additional Old Business**

- a. Brochure for South Farm – Motion by G. Klinger to spend up to \$375 to print additional brochure for the self-guided walk. 2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Thieke. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
- b. Pat's Power bills – G. Klinger informed us of new Town policy in that all bills must be signed at Pats and copy given to her for reimbursement.

**VI NEW BUSINESS**

**A. CRMC Notices – None**

**B. Additional New Business**

- a. Motion by K. Simoneau to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 2018. 2<sup>nd</sup>: C. Connery. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: S. Griffin.
- b. Motion by S. Griffin to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2018. 2<sup>nd</sup>: K. Simoneau. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, S. Griffin and K. Simoneau. Nay: None. Abstain: G. Gardiner and R. Thieke
- c. Website – Noted that the website has been updated and G. Klinger thanked Town Councilor Van Slyke for her help.
- d. Trail Maps – R. Thieke reported that he had requested from Town GIS Co-coordinator S. McCandless a kiosk size map of Schoolhouse Pond Preserve to go into the kiosk. He has also asked that the trail maps for Richard Trail, Charlestown Moraine and Sprague Preserves also be linked to the website. A new map for the South Farm kiosk will also be requested.
- e. Noted the resignation of Forrester Safford from the Commission.
- f. Application for Commission membership from Lynn Macalister (dtd 7/28/2018) was noted. Lynn has been volunteering on our workdays for quite some time and in light of our current vacancy, G. Klinger made a motion that we recommend to the Town Council the appointment of Lynn Macalister to the Commission. 2<sup>nd</sup>: S. Griffin. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None

**VII MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None**

**VIII ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by C. Connery to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup>: S. Griffin. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke, Secretary

Next regular Commission Meeting on November 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.

There will be a special meeting on November 5, 2018 at 9:00 AM at Schoolhouse Pond Preserve