

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 28, 2014
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 G. Klinger, Vice-Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: G. Klinger, H. Hultgren, F. Safford and R. Thieke.
Excused: L. Arnold, C. Connery and K. Simoneau
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Motion to approve the minutes of September 23, 2014 G. Klinger. 2nd: R. Thieke. Aye: G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: H. Hultgren and F. Safford
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. Report on Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
- a. R. Thieke reported that the Town Administrator has requested that the Parks and Rec Commission give an advisory opinion on our planned expenditure to clear the trail on the eastern portion of the Preserve. He attended their meeting and discussed the plan and they approved the planned expenditure and will advise the Town Administrator.
- B. South Farm Preserve**
- a. Maintenance – C. Connery, G. Klinger and R. Thieke worked at the Farm on October 22. Since we did not have a quorum, no minutes were kept. G. Klinger and R. Thieke reported that the three of them cleared vegetation from the driveway entrances and along the stone walls, checked the barn and trails and found them in good condition. It was noted that there is either some rot or an insect infestation on one of the old barn beams just inside the door and F. Safford will check it out and remedy the situation.
- b. Public Works Dept. has cut the trails on the north and south fields.
- c. Horses – We have received photo evidence that horses are being walked through the parking area onto the trails, even those it is posted for no horses, rather than using the horse entrance. R Thieke will place a second sign at the entrance to the parking area indicating no horse are to come through that area.
- d. There are a large number of autumn olive trees along the northern (cemetery) side of the Farm as well as the south and west side of the north field and L. Arnold is asked to speak with Public Works about removing them – not all at once but as they have the time.
- C. Richard Trails**
- a. C. Connery has completed the clearing of the new trail and R. Thieke has blazed it and it is already receiving a good deal of usage.
- b. R. Thieke walked parts of the Old Indian Trail and believes that there is the potential for another trail east of the existing ones and we will explore it when there are fewer leaves on the trees.
- c. R. Thieke reported that he has discussed with Steve McCandless having him go and map the new trail with his GPS and he will when the leaves are down. At that time we will also check out other trail possibilities.
- D. Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
- a. G. Klinger reported that C. Connery had walked the trails and found all in good condition.
- E. Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp** – R. Thieke reported on behalf of L. Arnold that K. Simoneau had painted the posts on the two road sides.

F. **Report – Affordable Housing Commission** – F. Safford stated there was nothing to report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Grand opening of Pawaget Park (formerly Mud Cove) – R. Thieke reported that he attended the opening of the Park and that it had been nicely done and provides walking trails in the meadow as well as along the tree line to a boardwalk over the marsh to a viewing platform overlooking the cove and Ninigret Pond.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke
Secretary

Next regular meeting of the Commission at Town Hall will be on November 25, 2014 at 7:00 PM.