

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
February 26, 2013
CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL
4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM 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: L. Arnold introduced Jennifer Sternick who lives on Deer Run and wished to speak to the Commission about re-establishing the Tree Committee. After the recent blizzard, the Public Works Dept. (without getting owner permission) cut down several large birch trees on her private property - the tops were bowed over by the snow and over the edge of the road and thus on public property. She would like to be considered for membership on the Committee and knows of several others who would be interested. The Commission will place this on the agenda for the next meeting for full discussion.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Motion to approve the minutes of January 22, 2013 and to amend them by changing the word "call" to "e-mail" in Section V4d line 1 by G. Klinger. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: H. Hultgren.
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
Reports from Commissioners
1. C. Connery and R. Thieke reported that there were several trees down across the trail at Richard Trails and that we should also check South Farm Preserve and Schoolhouse Pond Preserve for similar damage and remove it. Decided to walk the trails at all three preserves on April 6, 2013 (begin at 8:30 AM at Richard Trails) since by then they should be free of snow.
 2. South Farm Preserve - the Nick Wollenberg Eagle Scout Project – L. Arnold reported that all paperwork has been done and the Commission decided that Nick should be advised that he has a deadline of May 15, 2013 to complete the project.
 3. Richard Trails – C. Connery and R. Thieke reported that they had walked the trail that had already been cleared and marked off the balance of it so that it can be cleared once the snow is gone (there is still 6 to 8 inches on the ground). We will lay out additional trails once this one is completed.
 4. Signage cleaning – all the white Preserve roadside markers need to be cleaned once the snow and ice have melted.
 5. Arbor Day – April 26 – Discussed various ideas and will make a decision at our next meeting.
 6. Map – L. Arnold will ask the Town to make a map of the trails at Richard Trails once they are completed.
 7. Land and Water Conservation Summit – L. Arnold reminded the Commission members that this will be held on March 9, 2013 from 7:45 AM to 4:30 PM at Memorial Union on the URI Kingston campus. L. Arnold, G. Klinger, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke are planning to attend.
 8. Additional Business
 - a. Well Water Testing – L. Arnold reported that Matt Dowling would like to receive copies of test results from anyone testing the water from their private wells. The Commission will once again be sponsoring a well water testing session and making test kits and approved laboratory names available to the public. Matt will be encouraged to place an article about this in the Pipeline after G. Klinger has set up the program date, time and location.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

Rhode Island Association of Conservation Commission dues – H. Hultgren made a motion to renew our membership in the Association and pay the \$100 dues. 2nd: R. Thieke. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, H. Hultgren, G. Klinger, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke
Secretary

Next regular Commission meeting will be held on March 26, 2013