

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 25, 2017
Charlestown Town Hall
4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by G. Klinger, Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: G. Klinger, C. Connery, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None,
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of March 28, 2017 meeting was made by C. Connery. 2nd: F. Safford. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Nay: None. Abstain: K. Simoneau.
- V. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **Report on Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
 - a. Trail Work for spring – the meeting on April 26 at 9:00 AM to blow leaves off trail, blaze new trail and determine what additional work needs to be done was cancelled due to weather. Plan to meet on May 3rd at 9AM to do the work and if time permits install some of the birdhouses purchased for the preserve.
 - b. New maps – R. Thieke has received from S. McCandless a new map with the expanded trail network to display in the kiosk. He is working on getting a smaller map that can be used for distribution to walkers.
 - B. **Report on South Farm Preserve**
 - a. Picnic table near barn – will move it to the picnic area near kiosk on a work day at the preserve.
 - b. Work for spring – C. Connery and G. Klinger walked the woodland trail and found a fallen trees obstructing the trail. It will be removed. Decided to schedule June 3rd (9 am) as a work day and way to observe Annual Trail and Maintenance Day.
 - C. **Report on Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
 - a. Kiosk – will be installed in the spring when H. Hultgren returns to RI.
 - b. Work for spring – Trail maintenance. K. Simoneau reported that there have been a number of blowdowns over the winter. Will schedule work day at May meeting.
 - D. **Patricia Sprague Forest Preserve**
 - a. Parking Lot – a May to July timeline for completion.
 - b. Signage – R. Thieke reported that the sign for the roadside has been received along with “Open Dawn to Dusk” . Motion to approve expense of \$88.62 for additional signs and paint for trail blazing by R. Thieke. 2nd: C. Connery. Approved: G. Klinger, C. Connery, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 - c. Trail map – R. Thieke will discuss with S. McCandless getting a trail map made for the kiosk and distribution to visitors.
 - d. Work for spring – general cleanup and trail maintenance and creation of a new trail around abutter property and fencing off the current trail in that area. R. Thieke and S. McCandless walked the area where the existing trail goes onto abutter property and determined that about 150 feet of fencing will be needed to close off the area. Will discuss at May meeting.
 - E. **Richard Trails**
 - a. Closed Trail – C. Connery reported that the downed and leaning trees have been cleared and the trail can be reopened.
 - b. Clean-up – C. Connery and G. Klinger walked the trails and determined they are in good shape.

F. Additional Business

- a. Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp – the road sign needs some repair.

VI NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Aquaculture Informational Session** – noted that there will be an informational public meeting on June 29th at the Coastal Resources Center at the URI Bay Campus concerning aquaculture and its future in RI. Much of the discussion will focus on the 5% rule for the coastal ponds. Any Commissioners interested may attend.
- B. **Annual Trail and Maintenance Day – June 3** – decided we will use this as the work day for South Farm.
- C. **Well Water Workshop** – G. Klinger reported that she has arranged with A. McCann to hold this year’s workshop on June 20 at the Cross Mills Library and will have flyers available for distribution at our May meeting.
- D. **Arbor Day** – we will observe this by planting a shrub or tree at the Charlestown Moraine in September.
- E. **Economic Improvement Commission Meeting on April 27th** – G. Klinger will attend as our representative.
- F. **CRMC Notices**
 - a. Application from James Coogan to construct and maintain modifications to a previously approved residential boating facility at 1 Wells Lane.
 - b. Application from Glen and Karen Corsetti to subdivide Lot 16-4 into two lots.

VII MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: G. Klinger announced that H. Hultgren had tendered his resignation since he has officially become a Florida resident and no longer qualifies to be a Commission member. All expressed regret for Hal’s leaving the Commission but were very appreciative of the contributions he has made over the years.

VIII ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by K. Simoneau to adjourn. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, F. Safford, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Richard N Thieke, Secretary

Next Commission Meeting on May 23, 2017 at Town Hall at 7:00 PM

Next Special Commission Meeting on May 3, 2017 at Charlestown Moraine Preserve at 9:00 AM, weather permitting.