

**CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL OPEN MEETING
May 20, 2019**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by G Klinger, Chair at the Ninigret Tennis Court parking area.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Present: G. Klinger, S. Griffin, L. Macalister, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Excused: C. Connery and G. Gardiner.
- III.** The commission monitored the following properties:
- AP 5 Lot 95, Post Road** (2.93 acres) – the property is level with Route 1 on the north side but drops off about 50 feet in from the road and a significant portion of the lower part of the property is wetlands. Overall it is very overgrown and there are a great many invasive plants. It is a wildlife habitat and absorbs a great deal of the runoff from Route 1. There are several trees that have fallen or are leaning but they are in a heavily overgrown area and not a danger to anyone. **Except for a few downed limbs there have been no significant changes since the last monitoring.**
- AP 7, Lot 9, 10, 11 and 13, Arnolda Round Rd** (4.5 acres total) – dense vegetation, numerous invasive plants and some wetlands.
- AP 9, Lot 2, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.29 acres) – this small property on the south side of the western end of Green Hill Pond is small and largely covered with various invasive plants. **No change since last monitoring.**
- AP 9, Lot 19, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.02 acres) – this is an access path to the beach and is next to the driveway of the abutting property. **There is now snow fencing on both sides of the property and a “No Public Access” sign by the road access.**
- AP 9, Lot 42, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.35 acres) – access path to the beach but the area is ill-defined and **should be surveyed for proper delineation and then a public access sign put in place. More sand than last monitoring.**
- AP 9, Lot 54, Charlestown Beach Rd** (1.05 acres) – valuable beach front property which had dunes covered with grasses but erosion on the beach side. No trail but beach access has been made by people through the property. Commission will consider placing Town of Charlestown Open Space signs along the property edge. The damage from storm Sandy eroded much of the dune and the grasses were swept away or buried with the remaining dunes just along the road and mainly made up of sand plowed there when the road was cleared of sand. **More sand than at last monitoring. There also appears to be more grass.**
- AP 9, Lot 55, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.11 acres) – beach access trail with erosion on ocean side. Commission will consider placing Town of Charlestown Open Space signs along the property edge. **Due to storm damage, the location of the Town owned access is unclear and should be re-surveyed. More sand but no real change since last monitoring.**
- AP 9, Lot 56, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.48 acres) - valuable beach front property which had dunes covered with grasses but erosion on the beach side. Commission will consider placing Town of Charlestown Open Space signs along the property edge. The damage from storm Sandy eroded much of the dune and the grasses were swept away or buried with the remaining dunes just along the road and mainly made up of sand plowed there when the road was cleared of sand. **More sand than at last monitoring. There also appears to be more grass.**
- AP 9, Lot 66, Charlestown Beach Rd** (0.02 acres) - access path to the pond but the area is ill-defined and **should be surveyed for proper delineation and then a public access sign put in place.**

AP 9, Lot 68, Charlestown Beach Rd (0.02 acres) - access path to the pond but the area is ill-defined and **should be surveyed for proper delineation and then a public access sign put in place.**

AP 9, Lots 309, 310, 316, 316-1, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, Charlestown Beach Rd and First St - largely covered with various invasive plants and some access trails to the water.

AP 9, Lot 399, Charlestown Beach Rd (3.99 acres) – property abuts the Breachway on the west and Ninigret Pond on the north. Partly under water. Public access on land only via deer trails through State owned property. Only true access to Town owned property is by water. **It appears that the property has recovered from storm Sandy and there is dense vegetation and invasives.**

AP 28, Lot 20, Carolina Back Rd (2.80 acres) – a portion of this property is a memorial park and part is drainage for the roads on both sides of the property. The property also contains Charlestown Historical Cemetery #1. There are a number of trees in the area dedicated to the memory of fallen soldiers of World War I. The replacement tree planted 4 years ago appears healthy. **Tree near cemetery has split and needs to be taken down. Tree near memorial has also partly come down and needs to be removed.**

AP 28, Lot 113-1, Old Shannock Rd (1.14 acres) – along the south side of the Pawcatuck River, this property is mainly wetlands. It is overgrown but serves as a buffer for the river. It is also a wildlife habitat. **Some tree damage but heavily overgrown and no danger to people.**

- a. The Commission noted that people have roped off parking areas in a number of lots along Charlestown Beach Road but it is not clear if any of them are on Town owned property.

IV. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS None

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by S. Griffin. 2nd: K. Simoneau. Aye: G. Klinger, S. Griffin, L. Macalister, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Thieke, Secretary

Next regular meeting of the Commission will be on May 28, 2019