

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
July 24, 2018
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, Chair.
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Present: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke.
Excused: F. Safford.
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Lynn Macalister and Karen Jarret, President of the Charlestown Land Trust attended.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of June 26, 2018 meeting was made by G. Gardiner. 2nd: C. Connery. 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**
 - a. K. Simoneau reported that he had removed trash from along the road abutting the Preserve.
 - B. **Charlestown Moraine Preserve**
 - a. Several Commission members will do a clean-up around the parking area and sign on July 27th at 8:00 AM.
 - C. **Patricia Sprague Forest Preserve**
 - a. Work was done to complete clearing of the trails by C. Connery and G. Gardiner. People need to walk the trails to keep the grass down and G. Klinger has contacted the Friends of Conservation members and asked them to walk the trails as a preview before opening and let us know if any added work needs to be done.
 - b. Work will be done soon to clear the area around the stone bench.
 - c. Mark Sprague has offered to help with maintenance and G. Klinger will contact him.
 - d. The kiosk will be placed here soon.
 - e. Discussed with Karen Jarret the timing of the official opening and it was decided that it will be done on August 26th at 2:00 PM. Water will be available for walkers. G. Klinger will invite the Town Council, press, Friends of Conservation and Karen will ask her membership.
 - D. **Richard Trails Preserve**
 - a. G. Gardiner reported that vegetation along the trails needs to be trimmed and parts of the trails weed whacked. Work will be done on August 3rd at 8:00 AM.
 - E. **Schoolhouse Pond Preserve**
 - a. Motion made by R. Thieke to amend his motion of June 26 to reflect the actual cost (\$3,445) of the new kiosk for this Preserve from Timber Homes LLC. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 - F. **South Farm Preserve**
 - a. The area around the sign and the parking lot needs to be weed whacked and the work will be done soon.
 - G. **Additional Old Business**
 - a. Well Water Workshop – S. Griffin reported that about 30 people attended the workshop.
 - b. Brochure – R. Thieke made a motion to spend up to \$400 to have the new brochures printed. 2nd: G. Gardiner. Aye: G. Klinger, C. Connery, G. Gardiner, S. Griffin, K. Simoneau and R. Thieke. Nay: None.

VI

NEW BUSINESS

A. **CRMC Notices** – None

B. **Rhode Island Bird Atlas**

- a. R. Thieke reported that Charles Clarkson of URI had contacted us requesting permission to establish transects at Schoolhouse Pond and South Farm Preserves as part of a project being done by URI and RI DEM to understand how birds use habitats in the State during migration to refuel. Similar transects are being established throughout the state. A letter was sent giving approval for them to study at the two aforementioned preserves but also gave them permission to include the other Town owned properties.

C. **Town Website Profile**

- a. Reviewed what is now on the website and what should be removed and added. G. Klinger will discussed this with B. Van Syke who will see that the changes are made.

VII

MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

VIII

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke, Secretary

Next regular Commission Meeting on August 28, 2018 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.