

Draft Minutes
CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
August 24, 2023
Town Hall Town Council Chambers

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Lynn Macalister called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
- II. **ROLL CALL** - Present: Silvermoon LaRose, Lynn Macalister, Nicholas Testa, Steve Williams, Shirley Griffin Excused: Charles Connery
- III. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None
- IV. **TOWN COUNCIL LIASON TO THE COMMISSION REMARKS**
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** July 13, 2023- Do not have the quorum necessary who were present at the last meeting to vote on this, tabled for next month.
- VI. **REPORTS:** Discussion And/Or Potential Action(s), Announcement(s) And/Or Vote(s)
 1. Welcome new member Steve Williams
 2. Social Media - 704 followers, little activity by the commission over the last month
 3. Preserve monitoring, management and/or maintenance of:
 - Arnold Family White Cedar Swamp Preserve- nothing to report
 - Charlestown Moraine Preserve-nothing to report
 - Patricia Sprague Forest Preserve- nothing to report
 - Richard Trails Preserve- nothing to report
 - Schoolhouse Pond Preserve- another case of camping at the preserve, email received from a community member, trash left behind, police went out to document it, reported to DPW to clean up the trash
 - South Farm Preserve- historical society was there last week for head and footstone repairs and grooming of the graveyard, more to be done and they have put it on their list as a priority to address
 - Tucker Woods Preserve- The report from DEM was shared. The orange trail is closed, no longer able to be used. Recommendations from DEM are to reroute the trail if an alternate route can be created that doesn't cross wetland areas or previous approval is obtained (not likely) - process to follow if we choose to do that. Current trails are able to stay as is. Nick made a motion to abandon the orange trail based on DEM directive of July 14, 2023. Steve volunteered to cover the orange blazes. Silvermoon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS** – Discussion And/Or Potential Action(S), Announcement(S) And/Or Vote(S)
 1. MEETING MINUTES from TC meeting on our annual monitoring of town properties recommendations - Not all council members have had time to review due to recent changes to the council. Steve made a motion that we delay discussion of this item. Nick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. This will be tabled till next month.
 2. Spotted Lanternfly, presentation and update - Flyer has been created by Amy Forbes at Cross Mills Library. DEM will be sharing this out as well. All commission members will post and share. Has been added to our Facebook page for sharing.
 3. Well Water Workshop - 25 people attended. The presentation went well. Kits were handed out to participants.

4. Annual monitoring of own-owned properties – accidental repeat of old business #1, again this was tabled for the next meeting.
5. Potential Land Acquisition for Shoreline Access And/Or Conservation (New Biscuit City Rd, AP 29 Lot 43-1) - nothing new to report, still continuing
6. Other - Chariho Youth Task Force approached the town to put up signs at the preserves. Charlestown Rec approved but did not ask the Commission, that was discussed and resolved long ago. The commission only asks that for continuity, the CCC be notified of any requests for posting signage. These signs are already on some of the preserves, but not all. Lynn made a motion that the CCC approve posting for the Chariho Youth Task Force mental health signs to be put up at all the preserves. Steve seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS Discussion And/Or Potential Action(S), Announcement(S) And/Or Vote(S)

1. Scheduling of Preserve maintenance workdays -
 - a. Morraine Preserve Clearing - September 16, 9am-11am - invite community to participate - volunteer hours can be provided to any students
 - b. Nick volunteered to walk school house and report back to see if we need to schedule a cleanup for the next meeting. All other preserves are
2. Other - none

IX. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

- X. ADJOURNMENT - Lynn made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm. Silvermoon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Silvermoon LaRose, Secretary Charlestown Conservation Commission

**The next regular meeting will be held Thursday September 28, 2023 7:00pm
Charlestown Town Hall Council Chambers**

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Charlestown Conservation Commission. If communication assistance (readers/ interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact 401-364-1210 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.