

CHARLESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 23, 2013
CHARLESTOWN TOWN HALL
4540 S. County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM by L. Arnold, Chair.
- II. ROLL CALL: Present: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Excused: H. Hultgren and K. Simoneau .
- III. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS: None
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Motion to approve the minutes of March 26, 2013 by G. Klinger. 2nd: C. Connery.
Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
Motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2013 with the addition of “They then monitored the Preserve and also ...” to the 2nd sentence of item IV by G. Klinger. 2nd: L. Arnold. Aye: L. Arnold, G. Klinger and R. Thieke. Abstain: C. Connery and F. Safford.
- V. OLD BUSINESS:
1. Richard Trails – C. Connery will complete the trail with an assist from L. Arnold and G. Klinger as soon as possible. L. Arnold will arrange to have a map made of the Preserve and the trail when it is completed but that can only be done before the leaf canopy comes out.
 2. Schoolhouse Pond Preserve
 - a. Set a date of May 3 at 9:00 AM to assess storm damage and monitor the Preserve.
 - b. F. Safford reported that he is working on the sign for the entrance.
 - c. H. Hultgren has advised L. Arnold that the kiosk is completed but needs to be assembled and then put into place.
 3. South Farm Preserve
 - a. Decided that rather than schedule a work day, Commission members will do the following tasks as their time permits:
 - (1) Widen the Wood Boy Scout Troop 15 trail by cutting back brush
 - (2) Weed whack around the parking lot and walls along the road.
 - (3) Clean up around the kiosk and cemetery
 - (4) L. Arnold will ask Public Works Dept to remove the hanging tree branch by the cemetery entrance as well as take down the tree on the left side of the barn leaning over it as well as the tree in front of the barn that is half dead.
 - b. Nick Wollenberg Eagle Scout Project – F. Safford reported that the project has been completed and that it took 3 gallons of stain to do it. Nick had a number of other scouts assist him and he was thanked for completing the task.
 - c. Sauna – R. Thieke made a motion to spend up to \$500 to have the sauna stabilized since much of the mortar is deteriorating and some stones have fallen off. 2nd: G. Klinger. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
 4. Arbor Day Celebration – April 26 at Charlestown Elementary School from 2:30 to 3:15 PM
 - a. Commission members will put tree packets together on April 24 at 3:00 PM.
 - b. Tree to be planted at the School will be delivered on April 25.
 - c. The agenda for the program at the School will include:
 - (1) L. Arnold will welcome everyone and include in her remarks that the Conservation Commission would like to encourage the residents of the Town to plant the trees of their choice on their property in an effort to replace/restore the green canopy lost during the past winter storms.

- (2) Two 4th grader students will read "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer.
 - (3) Two 4th grade students will accept from State Representative Donna Walsh the Arbor Day Certificate from the State Legislature.
 - (4) The School principal will make a few remarks.
 - (5) Three 4th grade students will be asked to throw shovels of dirt on the root ball of the blue spruce tree being planted.
 - (6) A bag containing two blue spruce seedlings and planting instructions will be given to each 4th grade students and staff for them to plant at their homes.
5. Well Water Protection Workshop: G. Klinger reported that this workshop sponsored by the Conservation Commission will be held on May 1st from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Cross Mills Library. Posters and flyers have been distributed around Town.
 6. Land and Water Conservation Summit Reports – Those who attended the Summit briefly discussed the sessions they attended.
 7. Website - L. Arnold reported that the Town Clerk is in the process of updating the Town website and that she had sent the information to her to reset all the links that had been broken. The open space brochure, maps and a list of the Commission accomplishments will also be included.
- VI. NEW BUSINESS: L. Arnold reported that she has discussed with Police Chief Allen the vandalism that has occurred at South Farm and if there is any further incidents, we should report them as soon as possible and file a police report.
- VII. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT:
Motion by F. Safford to adjourn. 2nd: C. Connery. Aye: L. Arnold, C. Connery, G. Klinger, F. Safford and R. Thieke. Nay: None.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard N. Thieke
Secretary

Next regular Commission meeting will be held on May 28, 2013