

Burrillville Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order by: Ron Lapierre at 7:00pm.

Members Present: Ron Lapierre, Michael Longenbaker, Samantha Young, Jose Pedro, Monique DeRoche
Roberta Lacey- Excused

Guests- Jeff McCormick, residents living on Wallum Lake including Thomas Stratford, Mark Dore, Cheryl Turcotte, Jennifer Mier, Dennis Sherman

Accept April Minutes - Samantha Young motioned to accept, Monique DeRoche seconded. Unanimously accepted. Accepted with correction 585.65 should be the lake level for Wallum Lake, Jose Pedro.

Wallum Lake- Lake level at 585.65. Reported by Jose Pedro.

Jeff McCormick- BCC will need to work with residents to find an acceptable lake level that protects wetlands and wildlife in the area, that does not impact residents septic systems. 585.4 range was stated as best/ historic level by residents.

Guests from South Shore Rd expressed concerns with winter levels which destroyed waterfront in 2008. They want to protect their septic systems, the water table needs to be watched (designed for 585.5). The residents attending tonight will attend next meeting to report on surrounding areas when lake levels are kept at the 585.5 level.

Ron agreed to keep lake levels in this range for the summer.

Town Conservation Plan- Sub committee candidates, Samantha Young is thinking about joining.

Water Protection- Plan to educate the public on water conservation and fertilizing lawns close to lakes, rivers and ponds. Samantha suggested having Save the Bay come to talk about protecting water.

Nipmunk Trail- Last hike at trail was successful. 18 attendees. Trail was cleared by Monique and Ron last month.

Quarterly Conservation Programs- Discussed having a mushroom walk at Nipmunc trail or behind Burrillville Middle School. Summer hike scheduled for Nipmunc on July 15th with Martha.

Lapham Farm- Need to start blazing trail. Sunday morning work will begin. Boy Scouts have been contacted to build kiosks at Lapham Farm and Duck Pond on bike trail.

Branch River- Kiosk needs maps and DEM information.

Eagle Peak- plan in place to increase parking lot and add fields. BCC will help design trails behind property to protect wetlands.

Town Canoe Launches- needs better signage

Earth Day cleanup- Pascoag river at Union Pond was cleaned Saturday May 13, 7 bags of trash

Rt 102 Gateway -Esposito landscaping quote to cut only once a year. Still waiting.

Union Pond is now owned by the town and ready for planning. May 27th at 9am planned walk to take notes

Fiscal report- \$60 RI environmental council subscription, not going to renew.

URI watershed watch program \$700 yearly have not recieved invoice for this year.

RI Land and Water summit- \$260 for 4 members to attend in July

Plants for Family day are budgeted.

Oak tree planted \$275 at playground planted next to Burrillville Police Department.

Need to find a supplier for pollinator plants for Town Gateway on 102, ensure they are local pollinators.

Old Business- Stickers for BCC are in and were dispursed to members. Samantha developed a Jr. Badge sticker for family events-children participants.

East coast artisans laminated DEM posters for Nipmuc Trail Kiosks.

New business-

Mail-

-Redesign of Harrisville Pond Dam Rehabilitation project. May 26 deadline to send concerns.

-Notable works upcoming audobon book release announcement June 11. Audabon Nature Center in Bristol.

Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by Mike Longebacker, seconded by Samantha Young.

Ronald P. Lapierre, Chairperson / Date