

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairperson Rich Dionne

**Members Present:** Richard Dionne, Leslie Bowen, Mike Lamoureux, Joe Pedro, Ron Lapierre, and Roberta Lacey

**Members Absent:** Cameron Genereux

**Guests:** Martha Thuman

- 1) **Approval of prior meeting's Minutes:** Motion was made to accept the August Minutes (Motion made by Joe Pedro; seconded by Mike Lamoureux – passed unanimously)
- 2) The Commission welcomed new member, Roberta Lacey to the commission
- 3) **Nipmuc Trail:** A motion was made to spend \$75 for the balance needed to complete the purchase of the Interpretive trail signs (Motion made by Joe Pedro; seconded by Ron Lapierre – passed unanimously)

Martha Thuman noted that the final product of the signs were “top notch.” She has revised the text for the new pamphlet that correlates to the new interpretive signs.

Martha made several recommendations for the commission to consider:

- a) The water bars leading down to the river be adjusted to be more horizontally leveled and less sloped.
- b) Remove the Maple description from interpretive post #12
- c) The Starflower mentioned is not there
- d) Winterberry is there, not mentioned
- e) Create a seasonal (4 times per year) scavenger hunt to post in the first kiosk

The commission grateful to Martha for all the time she has donated to both the creation of the trail and the recent updates to the trail.

The commission intends to plan a walk of the trail in the coming weeks for the Town Council and other town employees who may have interest in walking the trail.

Rich noticed some dirt bike activity with minor damage, noting that it is a difficult situation to monitor.

The 2 signs (missing parking sign and “Don’t Take Me Home”) are in the process of being made. Ron has begun working on establishing the Loop Trail that was previously marked out. A few more passes through and trail markings are needed to complete the approximate ¼ -1/2 mile trail. A precise measurement will be made in the future.

- 4) **Wallum Lake Dam/Canoe Launch:** Joe Pedro reported the water level as 585.2. Regarding the Dam and Water levels issues raised by area residents: Chairman Rich Dionne reported that phase I (performing a survey to establish accurate water levels and benchmarks) has been completed. He has received a report from Jeff McCormick, the Public Works Director for the town, stating that a field survey of the Wallum Lake Dam has been performed and new benchmarks have been set. The report notes that “Based on the survey and using the current correct vertical datum: {NAVD88 (computed using geoid 18)}; the Placard displaying elevation 586” should be set at 2.25ft...below the top of the dam structure and approximately 0.25 ft. (3 in.) below its current location.” A new sign is being made to replace the current sign, and will be installed by the DPW to establish an accurate measurement. Rich has been in contact with Mr. Gagnon of the RI DEM to

initiate phase II (create a new Memorandum of Agreement). Phase III will address Flood Control, and may need to be budgeted as a Capitol Improvement project.

Rich will be sending a letter of thanks to the Burrillville Police Department for patrolling the area during the summer months.

- 5) **Gateway Sign:** The solar light panel is working: power is going to the light. The issue appears to be either the battery or the controller that charges the battery. The cost to replace the necessary parts will be added to the next agenda
- 6) **Open Space Projects:** The commission will be working on a list of desired properties in order to have a prepared list for next year's request for input from the town.
- 7) **Invoices/Mail Received:** None
- 8) **Adjournment:** 8:40 PM  
(Motion made by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Ron Lapierre – passed unanimously)

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Richard Dionne, Chairperson