

Burrillville Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019

Members Present:

Rich Dionne, Mike Scurka, Joe Pedro, Leslie Bowen, Greg Devlin

Members Absent:

Joe Lavallee (excused)

Secretary's Report: Voted to accept the minutes of the February meeting.

(Motion by Greg Devlin; Seconded by Joe Pedro - passed unanimously)

Special Business

Reorganize: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary were approved as follows:

-Richard Dionne - Chairperson

(Nominated by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Mike Scurka - passed unanimously)

-Michael Scurka - Vice Chairperson

(Nominated by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Rich Dionne - passed unanimously)

-Leslie Bowen - Secretary

(Nominated by Greg Devlin; Seconded by Joe Pedro - passed unanimously)

Old Business

Nipmuc Trail: Greg spoke with Boy Scout troop leader Newt regarding the Eagle Scout project at the trail. Newt will be meeting with the scout soon, and expects to attend the April meeting with an update. In the spring the commission plans to walk the trail to assess the condition and address any maintenance concerns that arose over the winter.

Wallum Lake Canoe Launch: Water level is 585.2, perfect for this time of year. The parking lot has not been plowed, so the area has been relatively quiet. Joe P observed a pileated woodpecker and a goshawk in the area.

Gateway: Rich will be in touch with Roots N Shoots, once they are available this spring, regarding maintenance of the area for the upcoming season.

Clear River Canoe Launch: No report

Invenergy Clear River Energy: Rich has been attending the EFSB hearings. Today's hearing dealt with traffic and soil erosion. It appears there will be a lot of traffic generated from this project, which may create the need for a traffic detail at the intersection of S. Main St. and Main St. during morning and evening rush hours. Tomorrow's hearing will discuss biodiversity.

New Business

Blackstone in Bloom Contest: Interest was expressed to participate in this event, should other groups from town participate, making it a group effort. Rich suggested using the Gateway site for the project to Andrea, as it has high visibility, and is in need of a sustainable wildflower planting area. Andrea will get us in touch with a master gardener to help us evaluate the site. Cost and funding to be determined.

Annual Earth Day Clean Up: Voted to spend up to \$250 on this event to pay for one ¼ page ad in the Bargain Buyer to advertise the event, and provide two raffle items, as the BCC has

done in past years: Audubon Society gift certificate and a plant/tree.
(Motion made by Greg Devlin; Seconded by Joe Pedro - passed unanimously)

Arbor Day Tree Planting: A site to plant a tree in town will be explored by members and decided upon at the next meeting. Voted to appropriate \$250 to purchase the tree.
(Motion made by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Mike Scurka - unanimously)

House Bill H-5446: The town has a bill (H-5446) at the state house, regarding reform of the EFSB act. It would address many shortcomings of the current act, including having an attorney designated by the AG's office to act as council for the public, require a completed application from the beginning of the process, and allow the host community to determine if the project meets the community's comprehensive plan.

Miscellaneous

Invoices/Mail: Voted to pay the Bargain Buyer invoice for the December holiday ad of \$84.00.
(Motion was made by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Greg Devlin - passed unanimously)

ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 PM
(Motion by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Mike Scurka – passed unanimously)