

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson Richard Dionne

Members Present: Rich Dionne, Leslie Bowen, Joe Pedro, Greg Devlin, Cameron Genereux, and Joe Lavallee

Members Absent: Mike Scurka

Guests: None

A motion was made and vote taken to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2019 meeting.
(Motion by Greg Devlin; Seconded by Joe Pedro - passed unanimously)

Nipmuc Trail: Greg talked with Scout Master Newt regarding the trail project. Greg has a friend who will donate two 6.5 foot logs to be used in the project. The boy scouts will pick up the logs & transport them to the site. Rich wrote a letter to be distributed to the property abutters, notifying them of the activity they can expect by the boy scouts. Joe L cut out an entryway through the tree that had fallen across the trail near the first kiosk, so the boy scouts and visitors will have easier access. Cameron will pass along to Chase, the standard trail marking protocol that they can use to mark the trail.

Wallum Lake Canoe Launch: Water level is 585.1. Joe P is keeping the dam open just enough to maintain the water level and keep a small flow running down stream. Joe P looked into the issue of water withdrawal from the stream. It appears it is okay to do so, unless there is a water ban. Joe P also contacted Pascoag Utility District (PUD) regarding getting their assistance with getting the "No Swimming" sign up. He will be taking the sign down to PUD so they can determine what supports, if any, need to be attached to the sign. They will then assist with mounting the sign to the pole at a height that will deter vandalism to the sign. So far this season, there has not been a problem with swimmers or trash.

Gateway: The area is being maintained in good order. Rich will be in contact with a wildflower expert to consult about our difficulties getting wildflowers established at the site. Joe L suggested we consider putting 1 or 2 plants from our Family Fair plants at the site each year. The commission will consider this in the future.

Clear River Canoe Launch: Joe L is keeping the grass mowed. He noted that there is a beaver dam blocking the river a short distance down river from the launch site. It appears to be creating somewhat of an impediment for boaters.

Invenergy Clear River Energy: On June 20th, the EFSB decided to deny the power plant's application based on need. They did not deliberate further to address the issues of social benefit or environmental impact. On June 19th, Rich sent a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding Invenergy's application, stating an environmental impact study should be required to be completed. As the application is still in front of the Army Corps of Engineers, and the appeals process is still running its course. We will continue to stay vigilant regarding this project.

Motion was made to approve payment of \$8.35 to Richard Dionne for letter sent to the Army corps of Engineers via certified mail.
(Motion by Greg Devlin; Seconded by Joe Pedro - passed unanimously)

Laginestra Property: A walk of the property by the commission has been scheduled for Sunday, July 14th at 8:30 am to familiarize themselves the property and assess the possible usage of the property.

Blackstone in Bloom Project: The project was a success with the Town of Burrillville taking 2nd place in the competition.

Family Fair: 150 plants of 3 varieties were distributed at Family Fair - Catmint, Anise, Bee Balm. These pollinator-friendly plants were chosen to coincide with Pollinator Week, beginning June 17th. It was a beautiful day and one of the most well attended in recent years. Residents were appreciative of the plants offered to them. Due to difficulties locating affordable plants in a timely manner, an ad in the Bargain Buyer was not possible this year. The commission prefers to notify the residents of the plant giveaway, and hopes logistics will allow for a notice to be placed in the Bargain Buyer for next years event. The commission thanks Maureen from Roots & Shoots for all her efforts, and for acquiring the plants at cost plus the transportation fee, allowing us to maximize the number of residents who benefit from the event.

A motion was made to approve payment of \$1,030.50 to Roots & Shoots for the Family Fair plants.

(Motion by Joe Pedro; Seconded by Cameron Genereux - passed unanimously)

Mail: Blackstone River Watershed announcement of the Grand Opening of their new building. Invoice from Roots & Shoots in the amount of \$134.97 for the Blackstone In Bloom contest plants. Expenditure for the Blackstone in Bloom project was already approved at the June meeting.

Other: The documentary "A Plastic Ocean" will be shown at the Assembly Theatre in Harrisville on July 19th at 7 pm. It is a free event.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 PM

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