

Lincoln Conservation Commission
Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2022 MEETING
OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

FRANCINE JACKSON - CHAIR
GERALD McNALLY – CO-CHAIR
JARED BETHEL
STEPHANIE SANTOS
NATALIE NAULT

MEMBERS ABSENT

LESLIE B ALEXANDER-SECRETARY/TREASURER
EMILY ARGUETA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Francine Jackson called the March 2, 2022 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:00 PM.

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

No Minutes to approve.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Houghton, Friends of the Blackstone, spoke on the use of the \$400 given to BVHS for its cemetery work. Almost all of it went into restoration of the wall on Great Road, next to the Friends meeting house, especially buying mortar and a weed whacker. In addition, mason Steve Smith donated time and laborers. There is still a need for chemicals to restore the stones, shovels, and glue to hold the broken stones together. Jared asked if there were any grants for cemeteries, which began a discussion on GoFundMe. Recently, Ken Postle worked at Cobble Hill Road, He also found a cemetery that apparently is Narragansett or another tribe; he contacted both, but hasn't heard from either. He also mentioned the one on Sherman Avenue. Ken and Greg Duhamel (Woonsocket cemeteries) are always looking for volunteers. Stephanie mentioned Ken usually gives just one week's notice for a cleanup. It was also mentioned that the BVHS has a separate account for the cemetery donations, in order to allow a tax-deductible contribution for the giver. John also mentioned that some people buying houses in Lincoln aren't aware that there is a cemetery in their new property. It was noted that Gerald is working on classifying all the ones in town. He will get together with John to try to account for some of them. Finally, it was noted that the town doesn't have its own guidelines for cemeteries. It simply used those of the state.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

V. WETLAND APPLICATIONS: None

VI. COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Butterfly Garden- Gerald mentioned he wanted to go there if the weekend weather is good, but Stephanie reminded him of the landscaper. Of the three estimates she received, the cheapest is P&R Landscaping, LLC. They would work for \$1,500. Stephanie made a motion to accept, seconded by Gerald, Voted Unanimous.

Shady Brook – No Report.

Historical Cemeteries – No Report.

Town Cleanups – Stephanie is looking for a place for a Boy Scout day, possibly April 16. Yellow Bag Day is April 2nd, in Manville. Phil had asked about Breakneck Hill Road again, possibly April 9th. The town laws on littering were strengthened, but there is still no actual penalty for litterers. Natalie suggested all members should come to the April meeting with three possible places that need cleaning. Finally, the next E-Waste is April 30th.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

Adopt-A-Spot - No report.

Hydro Dam – Francine stated there is a future zoom meeting coming up on it.

Francine stated the Town's Needs Assessment was voted on at the last council meeting, but there is no other report on it.

The Hazard Mitigation Report, also voted on at the last council meeting, has yet to be placed on the town web site.

The Town wasn't mentioned on the ZAP website, as others were, but Stephanie stated she contacted Donna Kaehler about it. Francine also contacted Donna, but she hasn't gotten back to her. The BVHS is willing to participate, as one of the members (Susan Clarke) was there for the first, 50 years ago.

There was a recent zoom meeting on Breakneck Hollow, but Francine wasn't able to get on the site. She contacted the attorney in charge, who told her the next meeting will be within the next several weeks, at CCRI. Francine did read the minutes of it, but it consisted mostly of SHAB members discussing their inability to have a full contingent of members.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

The Valley Breeze had an article about the Blackstone River Coalition looking for volunteers to do once-a-month water quality testing from April through November. Jared stated he had done it in the past. Rhode Island tests would be collected at Sycamore Landing, home to the Friends of the Blackstone. Francine is offering to volunteer, and gave the information to the others.

IX. BUDGET :

Gerald asked Natalie about getting polo shirts, and is wondering if \$500 would be enough. There was talk on getting plantings for the Butterfly Garden after the landscapers finished their work. If a March cleanup would be able to happen, it was thought to put \$300 in for coffee. That would leave \$1,172 in this year's budgets.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Jared made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gerald seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next meeting is April 6th.

Minutes taken by Francine Jackson.

Respectfully submitted by,

Leslie B Alexander, Secretary

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