

LINCOLN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 7, 2023 MEETING OF THE LINCOLN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

<u>Members In Attendance</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
Jenn Nault - Secretary	Emily Argueta - Co Chair
Natalie Nault	
Leslie Alexander - Treasurer	
Francine Jackson	
Gerald McNally	
Steph Santos - Chair: arrived at 715	

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

- A. Francine called the June meeting of the Lincoln Conservation Commission to order at 6:59pm

II. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

- A. Leslie made a motion to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Gerald seconded. Francine stated if the previous months minutes were amended as previously agreed, then it's fine to approve - voted unanimously

III. Public Comment

- A. N/A

IV. Correspondence

- A. Letter received from Josh, Town Planner, about the town's Comprehensive Plan Committee. One member of this new committee should be from the Conservation Commission. The commission should vote on who that member will be.

V. Wetland Applications

- A. No response to email about Wilbur Rd.
- B. Francine said we cannot “object” to the plan because DEM already approved it for 33 houses, several years. Even though the road changed and therefore the plans changed, Josh told Francine that our letters cannot “object” we can only advise against a proposed plan.
- C. Per Leslie - if we really want to object, we have to go through the Town Council and plead our case so that they can consider objecting.
- D. Francine is going to send the letter to the Town Council and the administrator

VI. Public Outreach

- A. Education
 - 1. N/A
- B. General Community Service
 - 1. Leslie stated that Emily sent a letter about recycling to the Valley Breeze and it was published

VII. Mandated Community Service Hours

- A. Last person scheduled no-showed - we will see if he reaches back out to reschedule.

VIII. Projects

- A. Butterfly Garden
 - 1. Leslie was there 5/28 (Sunday) to do some work:
 - a) Weed wacked, cleaned paths, planted 3 butter bushes, 64 bulbs and 62 packets of seeds.
 - 2. Francine asked if we have a new tree for Doris but Leslie said she hasn't bought it yet - we have already voted on that though so we will get to it soon.
 - a) Steph asked if we wanted to see what Ground Works has because they have 70 different species of trees, some are flowering. Steph will send contact info over to Leslie so she can reach out about this
 - 3. Leslie said Carol Smith used to weed the butterfly garden and she has passed away so she would like to spend \$150 on a memorial of some sort. Leslie made a motion to spend up to \$150 for this and Gerald seconded. Voted unanimously

B. Shady Brook

1. Nothing new

C. Historical Cemeteries

1. Nothing new

D. Cleanups

1. Breakneck Hill cleanup is complete
 - a) About 10 people showed up and it lasted about 4 hours
 - b) Phil and DPW came with two trucks
 - c) Likely around 50 bags of trash
 - d) Expenses, previously voted on came to:
 - (1) Water: \$9.98
 - (2) Del's: \$70
 - (3) Waivers: \$12.50 for printing

E. E-Waste & Old River Rd

1. Leslie, Nat, Jenn attended and cleared at least 50 ft which was 19 bags of brush and debris

F. Steph would like to plan one more clean up in August

1. Church ground would like to do one on a Sunday with 100 volunteers
2. Bills Corner to up and around Scott's Pond
3. The group agrees that August is too hot for clean ups and we should plan these for maybe mid-to-late September

G. Grant Projects

1. Barney Pond Cleanup - holding for fall season so we have more time plan
2. State Grant was submitted to "revitalize sections of town"
 - a) With John Cullens permission Leslie would like to get quotes to clean up the rest of the wall. Leslie stated she would work on obtaining permission and keep the commission in the loop

IX. New Business

A. Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee: LCC Representative: Vote Required

1. Both Francine and Jenn stated that they were interested in this. Francine stated that because she already serves on multiple committees, she would just attend as part of the public from time to time. Vote to appoint Jenn as the LCC rep on this new committee was unanimous.

B. Shady Brook Update

1. Jenn spoke to Phil about this location. Because it is so large, it's a bit more than the LCC can clear and address with volunteers. Phil stated we could work with the town to apply for a grant to have this space redone professionally. LCC should hold on projects here for now.

X. Calendar Review

A. LCC Projects

1. Steph stated that she attended a hazardous waste event in Burrillville and wants to do one here. Gerald was looking into setting one of these up for us - he reached out to RI Resource Recovery - Steph will send the info to him so he can send an email

B. Town Meetings

1. \$960 is the new annual budget for the Secretary as of July as voted by budget board

XI. Commissioner Updates

A. Steph:

1. Greg Garrett reached out to Steph to see if we had volunteers to plant trees at the high school to take place in the fall season.

B. Emily:

1. Marketing
 - a) N/A, Emily not in attendance
2. Social Media
 - a) N/A, Emily not in attendance

C. Jenn:

1. Adopt-A-Spot Update
 - a) Jenn would like to vote on start up costs for flyers and signage
 - b) \$250 for flyers and mailing x 150 locations
 - c) Leslie suggested we 300 mailers which would bring the cost to around \$500 to do all printing
 - a) Leslie made a motion to spend \$500 on the flyers and mailing, Jenn seconded the motion, voted unanimously
2. Next Steps:
 - a) Jenn to share the flier with the group and then order 300 prints
 - b) Once received she will work with the group to get envelopes filled and mailed

- c) Jenn will get ETA from sign shop on timeline from order to receipt
 - d) Jenn will ask Phil what resources are available to handle the
3. Next Meeting: Jenn and Natalie won't be able to attend, they will be in GA for a baseball tournament. Stephanie stated she may be on vacation at that time as well and therefore we may have to cancel the next meeting but we can decide as the date comes closer.

D. Natalie:

- 1. Commissioner Apparel
 - a) N/A
- 2. Updates
 - a) Nothing New

E. Leslie:

- 1. Seeds from URI sent to Library and organic garden and planted at Butterfly Farm Garden
- 2. New lock for shed she bought and installed it and will spray with WD40 with each use - the old lock wasn't locking so she had to purchase a new one on the town account.
- 3. Leslie has bulbs at home that she already bought that we can use at Smithfield Ave.

F. Gerald:

- 1. Updates
 - a) Nothing new

G. Francine:

- 1. Would like to create a walking path around the pond across from the HS, Stephanie stated that the boy scouts are always looking for projects like this and would probably volunteer to help. We can discuss further at the next meeting

XII. Open Discussion

- A. N/A

XIII. Budget Review

- A. Expenses Approved this meeting
 - 1. Steph: Water \$9.98
 - 2. Steph: Waiver Printing \$12.50
 - 3. Emily: N/A

4. Dells: \$70
5. Dorris tree: (previously approved, still pending purchase): \$150
6. Carol Smith memorial: \$150
7. Shrubs for front street \$200, pending purchase
8. \$500 for printing and mailing materials for adopt-a-spot
9. New Balance after the above is \$683
 - a) Donate \$500 to cemeteries: Leslie made a motion to donate funds to cemeteries and Stephanie seconded as long as we have the funds remaining; voted unanimously

B. Grants

1. N/A

XIV. Adjourn

- A. Stephanie made a motion to adjourn at 8:29pm. Jenn seconded. Voted unanimously
- B. Next meeting is July 5th, pending a decision by the commission about cancellation due to vacations.

An Interpreter for the hearing impaired may be requested for any Town meeting. Call the Town Clerk's Office at 401-333-8451 (TDD & VOICE) at least one week prior to the meeting date to request an interpreter. Amplification equipment is also available.