

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

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 4, 2023 MEETING OF THE LINCOLN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

<u>Members In Attendance</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
Francine Jackson - Commissioner	Natalie Nault - Commissioner
Emily Argueta - Co-Chair	Kendra Gay - Commissioner
Stephanie Santos - Chair	Gerald McNally - Commissioner
Jenn Nault - Secretary & Treasurer	

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - A. Stephanie Santos called the October meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:02 pm.
- II. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**
 - A. Stephanie made a motion to approve the previous month's meeting minutes.
Francine called out some punctuation errors to be fixed and seconded the motion to approve, post corrections. Voted unanimously.
- III. Public Comment**
 - A. Ms. Julie Genereux in attendance. No comment, just observing.
 - B. Mr. Jose Escobar is in attendance. No comment, just observing
- IV. Correspondence**
 - A. N/A
- V. Wetland Applications**
 - A. Nothing new
- VI. Public Outreach**
 - A. Education

1. High School Tree Planting:

- a) Stephanie reached out to the Lincoln High School about potential volunteers to help with planting. She hasn't heard back but will reach out again. Per Groundwork, there should be about 180 trees and they plan to plant for about 1 hour a day around the High School property.

2. Deer Crossing Sign: Nothing new to report; no response from DPW

3. Bird Habitat: Nothing new to report. Stephanie reached out to Dan from Butterfly Farm, but he hasn't responded yet.

B. General Community Service

- 1. Church Group: Kendra's church has youth looking to volunteer. We will follow up with them through her and hope to have additional information for our next meeting.

VII. Mandated Community Service Hours

A. Updates

- 1. No new outreach

VIII. Projects

A. Butterfly Garden

- 1. Stephanie asked Julie Generaux (in attendance, public attendee) if the community garden might have interest in helping with redoing or maintaining this space. Julie Genereux stated that the Lincoln Garden Club might be. She can put Stephanie in touch with a member, Katherine, to see if there is interest. Jenn will reach out to the town to inquire about potential green space grants that the Conservation Commission could apply for to help with this project.

B. Shady Brook

- 1. On hold.

C. Historical Cemeteries

- 1. Per Francine: it's been a tough couple of months. John Houghton hasn't had time to do much either so this is pending.
- 2. Saturday, 10/14/023 there is an eclipse, mid-day. Francine brought eclipse glasses for the group.

D. Cleanups

1. 10/14: Scott Pond @ 9am; John Marsland of the Blackstone River Watershed Council will be co-hosting and attending with a group of volunteers to participate.

E. Grant Projects

1. Barney Pond:
 - a) Jenn and Emily are meeting Scott Winslow, from Parks and Rec, onsite tomorrow at 2pm for a 15 min walk through to ensure we have approval from the town to proceed with this project.
 - b) NBC Grant is pending a decision from the state

IX. Adopt-A-Spot

- A. Jenn stated that there are two active locations at this time. Responses from other interested parties have been very slow, despite the initial outreach and submission of applications.
- B. The State of RI, Adopt-A-Spot program reached out today, to Jenn. The state is making changes to their program and has put a HOLD on all state owned locations. This makes up the vast majority of the locations we have applicants for, so Jenn will be reaching out to everyone to inform all applicants to hold until further notice.

X. New Business

- A. **Illegal Dumping:** Stephanie visited the property of Jacqueline Betty, in response to her email concerning dumping on her land by the previous owners. Stephanie reports that based on the apparent property lines, she doesn't believe there is anything that can be done. Stephanie did put Jacqueline Betty in touch with the town's DPW.

XI. Calendar Review

A. **LCC Projects**

1. Emily created a rough schedule for the commission to follow to help streamline our efforts based on what we should focus on each month throughout the year. She printed and distributed this schedule to the Conservation Commission members in attendance this evening. All members should consider what projects they would like to see the group working on this year and come to the next meeting with ideas and potential costs.

B. **Town Meetings**

1. N/A

XII. Commissioner Updates

A. Stephanie:

1. Updates

- a) Stephanie Reached out to Donna Kaehler to inquire about what the state provides in terms of supplies for cleanups, but she said they can't really provide anything at this time.

B. Emily:

1. Marketing

- a) Emily stated:

(1) Email went out to our email list about the Scott Pond clean up

(2) Flier for cleanup is going in the VB

2. Social Media

- a) Nothing new

3. Other Updates

- a) Emily is updating the waivers and a QR code is being made so folks can sign on the phones, if they prefer.
- b) Emily paid \$128.39 for annual Canva subscription. Stephanie made a motion to reimburse Emily for this expense. Jenn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

C. Jenn:

1. Updates

- a) Jenn already provided Adopt-A-Spot updates, no other updates at this time.

D. Natalie:

1. Not in attendance

E. Gerald:

1. Not in attendance

F. Francine:

1. No additional updates

G. Kendra:

1. Not in attendance

XIII. Open Discussion

A. Nothing additional to discuss

XIV. Budget Review

A. Balance at meeting opening: **\$5,830.52**

B. Expenses Approved this meeting: **\$128.39**

C. New Balance: **\$5,675.13**

D. Grants: N/A

XV. Adjourn

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.