

Town of Lincoln

Lincoln Conservation Commission
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

Conservation Minutes – April 15, 2024

Present: Stephanie Santos, Emily Rochac Argueta, Kendra Gay, Mara Delgado, Francine Jackson

The meeting was called to order by Chair Stephanie Santos at 6:58 P.M.

The minutes were approved as written.

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: The \$700.00 check from the Narragansett Bay Commission for work at Spectacle Pond was received;

a note on the Ashton Dam Hydroelectric Project was received;

a letter from M. Speiph came in, with a \$1.00 bill enclosed;

Lincoln Dark (Audubon) asked how to get into the old ball field to look for an osprey;

the headstone from Handy Pond has been missing for many years, and it is now ready to be returned.

We should do a community event when that happens.

Wetlands: No report

Public Outreach: The High school civics class is doing service hours;

Earth Day: We should showcase important issues, with tables, MaxMan for grades K-2, and a scavenger hunt for grades 3-5 at Lonsdale Elementary School from 9:00 to 1:00;

There was a recent EarthFest at Ponaganset High School's "Green Team," for half a day. They set up an information table, using, e.g., bees, trees, RI Recycling, with varied crafts. It proved very successful, and we should try to incorporate it in our high school.

Community Service: We must email the town clerk for any people who needs them.

Projects:

Butterfly Garden: We have commissioned Dave Turco, NRI, to clean it out. He needs to set up a tax #, which will allow him to continue. A motion was made to have NRI do this, with continuing cleanups in June, August and October. The initial cleanup is \$2,700.00, with \$1,000.00 per each continued pass. Passed unanimously. We also still have to purchase two commemorative trees;

Cemeteries: Two have been sent to Emily so far for the web site;

Cleanups: Breakneck Hill used up over 70 bags, all filled with bottles, in 2 ½ hours.

With the grant at Barney Pond, over 30 Boy Scouts planted more than 150 bulbs, and wildflower seeds.

The bathhouse was painted, the bench was finished and installed by Public Works;

On Front Street, we will begin this weekend at 9:00. A motion was made for \$100.00 for Del's – passed;
Kendra received the \$750.00 Litter Free RI grant, which will include T-shirts and tote bags;
A motion was made to spend \$360.00 to purchase two 5-foot benches from Knock on Wood – passed.

Calendar review:

The town approved \$6,000.00 for our budget;
Manville's Yellow Bag Day is coming soon;
ewaste pickup is May 4th at town hall;
ecowaste pickup is May 4th at the Cumberland Library.

New Business:

There should soon be some booms near the Pratt Dam. Stephanie is meeting with the NBC, looking to set one up hopefully in the southeast, together with the Blackstone Watershed Group and the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council;
There is a grant out for \$4,000.00 for resiliency and trash-free initiative;
Mara is working to promote recycling at all schools, which should include sorting stations. We should also look into Bootstrap compost;
Central Falls has new recycling bins. Francine will talk to Bob Ferri about them.

Old Business:

Adopt-A-Spot: We need more information concerning the signs. Evens Park needs one, as well as any other spots in the future;
Francine asked Mara why RIRRC doesn't want to promote itself on the news media;
Francine is also working on lighting in the state – she will send an example of a town ordinance – Charlestown – that she co-wrote several years ago.

Budget:

At present, there is \$7,042.00, but that should shrink with the benches, Dave Turco's work, and other projects ongoing.

The next meeting will be May 1, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francine Jackson