

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

The September 4th, 2024 meeting of the Lincoln Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Chair Stephanie Santos. Also present were Emily Rochac Argueta, Kendra Gay, Mara Delgado, Jose Escobar and Francine Jackson

The minutes were accepted.

There was no public comment.

Correspondence: We received a letter from RIDEM concerning building a house on wetlands, requiring “filling, grading, clearing, excavation, and other construction related disturbance within the above-noted freshwater wetland.” Francine will write a response.

Wetlands: See above

Outreach: People came by our booth at the recent Farmer’s Market, and there was talk about doing it again on September 28th. Should we buy an easel to help with our information?

Community Service: There should be more coming with school starting. The persons with Stephanie finished.

Projects:

Butterfly Garden: Emily proposed hiring goats to clean up the land. She will be looking for three quotes. Also, instead of Adopt-A-Spot, she suggested Adopt-A-Plot, having persons become responsible for a small piece of the garden. A vote was taken to look into the goat suggestion, by Stephanie, seconded by Kendra. Approved. Dave will return in the spring; also, we still have to dedicate the two trees there.

Cemeteries: Francine downloaded a list of sites, with descriptions. She will supplement the information, and have images taken of them. Also, she will look into procuring historic signs for those where there aren’t any. She asked about the Handy Pond stone. We will look into dedicating that in the next several weeks.

Cleanups: There is one at Scott Pond September 21st, at 9:00 A.M. Bruce Curliss has stated he is testing some part of the pond. There should be a Canal cleanup, but there

are questions as to who owns the land. RIDEM states it has a part of it, but it doesn't do cleanups. Previous information concerning cleaning part of the town is at URI.

Grant projects: We have \$2,000.00 left from them. Also, Julia Kaplin from KBVB had said she knows someone who might donate \$9,000.00 toward a boom, with some of our grant money used to supplement the cost. The Friends of the Blackstone are looking into a bigger boom, and will look into working near the Pratt Dam; also, \$500.00 of our grant money will go toward testing Scott Pond. Stephanie made a motion to spend the money, Jose seconded. Unanimous vote. Also, URI seems to do water testing.

Projects: Mara will begin her Nature Walks September 29th at 11:00 A.M. at the Butterfly Garden.

New Business: none.

Old Business: Rhode Island has been recognized as a DarkSky site. Francine has already sent new Town Planner Stephanie the lighting ordinance she co-wrote in Charlestown. Also, individual light fixtures can become less bright if asked. The four elementary schools will begin recycling and food sharing, with other schools following in September.

There are three Adopt-a-Spots; one sign will be placed at the Woodland site.

When the goats are done in the Butterfly Garden, the Knock on Wood bench will be placed there.

There is a compost presentation at the Lincoln Library September 10th, at 6:30 P.M. Francine walked along the Nature Conservancy spot, and nothing has been done to it since she and Kendra went with the state and Conservancy members.

Budget: At present, we have \$8,000.00, with \$2,000.00 set for cleanups, and \$6,973.00 available at this point.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Francine Jackson