

Regular Meeting Minutes
Tiverton Conservation Commission
Tuesday, March 18th, 2014
Town Hall, 343 Highland Road, Tiverton, RI

Chairman Ramotowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m..

Members present: T. Ramotowski (Chair), N. Cote, P. Hilton, R. Guimond, P. Mello, and Council Liaison W. Gerlach

- I. **Public Delegations:** none
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Approved unanimously the minutes of June, 2013. Minutes of February 2014 delayed until April meeting.
- III. **Treasure's Report:** . Approx. \$360 dollars remaining in account. T. Ramotowski has requested \$1000 in this year's budget, amount was recommended by town council. T. Ramotowski will follow up on Budget committee's final recommendation.
- IV. **Brief Announcements:** T. Ramotowski noted the purchase of the old Seaside Gas Station by the town. W. Gerlach explained grant funding would cover purchase costs and possible project with Roger Williams Architecture Students on design improvements.
T. Ramotowski handed out updated contact list for commission members.
- V. **New Business:**
 - a. The commission voted unanimously to amend the agenda for a discussion on plastic bag legislation in RI. It was noted that Barrington was the only community with a current ban on plastic bags. W. Gerlach updated us on a project he was working on with Councilor B. Pelletier to support pending statewide regulations on banning plastic bags. W. Gerlach presented the highlights on pending legislation.
 - b. Volunteer Appreciation Night hosted by the Town of Tiverton. All commission members are welcome to attend.
- VI. **Old Business:**
 - a. Use of Tiverton Landfill for storm debris storage – no new news
 - b. Watershed Update – T. Hilton noted Ken Wagner report to be shared with RI DEM; also T. Hilton discussed need to update Watershed Overlay District regulations as they are twelve years old. Have two volunteers from Planning Board so the subcommittee will begin work next month.
 - c. M. Mello with wetlands lot. Mr. Mello was not present, no discussion.
 - d. Tiverton Four Corners Change of Lot Designations from Residential to Commercial. Has been continued by planning board. T. Ramotowski will attend next planning board meeting.
 - e. Zoning Ordinance for Earth Removal – Commission members raised numerous concerns with regard to quarrying especially related to groundwater. Discussion included possible contamination of groundwater in private area wells.
- VII. **Standing Committees:**
 - a. Community Comprehensive Plan – T. Hilton noted no meetings yet.
 - b. Litter Prevention – N. Cote noted Spring Clean-Up is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd. Capt. Jones of the TPD attended a recent litter meeting to discuss ideas for cracking down on litterers. Canonicus St. is terrible for litter. The group discussed trash spilling out of recycling bins, especially on windy days.
 - c. Stafford Pond – N. Cote noted that the Lloyd Center Program would need new booklets, approx 250 to be printed. T.Hilton noted we need to plan for the next public meeting with stakeholders on recreation issues. W. Gerlach recommended a plan of action with various components be drafted. Ideally aim for buy in from all stakeholders, town, DEM, residents, etc.
 - d. Fogland Beach – T. Ramotowski noted that no meeting was held due to quorum issues. Still waiting for update from A. Teitz re: hunting dogs and boat ramp status.
- VIII. Landfill Committee – R. Guimond noted recent meetings.
- IX. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:05

Minutes recorded by P. Hilton

