

# East Providence Conservation Commission

## Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2013  
City Hall, East Providence  
7:30 PM

**Members present:** Lorraine Nik (Chair), John Rose (Vice Chair), Wayne Barnes, John Burrige, Marie Esten, Keith Gonsalves, and James Boyd (Secretary)

**Members Absent:** None

**Public present:** None

**Call to Order** - Chair L. Nik called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**Review of Minutes** - The Commission reviewed and approved the May 21 meeting minutes on a motion to approve by K. Gonsalves and seconded by J. Burrige.

**Public Comment** - No public present

### **Planning Department Update**

- Waterfront District Clean Up Initiative - The Planning Department sent a priority list of shoreline cleanup sites (Bold Point to Kettle Point) to Senator Whitehouse's office for consideration of funding.
- Recent Heavy Rainfall - City EMA tracked the heavy rainfall (remnants of Tropical Storm Andrea) for potential flooding conditions. High water was noted along the Ten Mile and Runnins Rivers. Fortunately no severe problems occurred.
- Hunt's Mill Terrace Garden - Wayne noted that the trail loop is mostly obscured by thick overgrowth of shrubs, herbaceous plants and some invasive species. Potential project for Commission in the fall season.

**Correspondence** - None

### **Old Business**

- RI Association of Conservation Commissions (RIACC) April 30 meeting review - Wayne attended the RIACC meeting in which the pending state legislation (at that time) affecting freshwater wetlands and onsite wastewater treatment systems was discussed. Subsequently, the modified legislation was passed by both chambers that establishes a study commission.
- Boyden Heights Boardwalk Stairway - The Commission discussed and planned to meet on June 22 to inventory the materials left over from previous boardwalk construction. The Commission did meet on that date and surveyed the site, moved one of the granite blocks and inventoried materials, as follows. There are six 2x6x16 boards and three 4x6x8 timbers. The only needed items to construct a stairway are two or three pre-cut stair stringers and hangers. The Commission will plan a construction date at the next meeting.

### **New Business**

- Summer meeting schedule - Commissioners discussed and agreed to meet next on August 20 with no meeting during July.

### **Commission Member Items**

- J. Rose expressed concern about an outdoor classroom at Providence Country Day school involving potential alterations to a nearby wetland with potential boardwalk construction.
- J. Boyd said that he would provide web page links for the CRMC Shoreline Change (Beach) Special Area Management Plan ([www.beachsamp.org](http://www.beachsamp.org)) and the sea level rise affecting coastal wetlands project (<http://seagrant.gso.uri.edu/climate/habitat.html>). He also indicated that a sea level rise inundation viewer (although it does not include the recent 2011 LiDAR) is available online at: <http://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=0bdc8b53772948aa8c007f646d4223ce>.
- K. Gonsalves also informed members about the new island campground for river travelers on the Blackstone River in Central Falls.

### **Adjournment**

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM on a motion by J. Boyd and seconded by J. Rose.

The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7:30 pm** in Room A (1st floor) East Providence City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary