

East Providence Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 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 7:32 PM.

Review of Minutes - The Commission reviewed and approved the October 15 meeting minutes on a motion to approve with corrections by M. Esten and seconded by J. Burrige.

Public Comment - No public present

Planning Department Update

- Omega Pond Fish Ladder - Keith reported that construction activities continue with completion of the upstream coffer dam and continued progress on the down stream coffer dam.
- FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) update - Wayne updated the Commission on working drafts of four map panels along the eastern edge of the City. Adoption of these maps is expected in 2015.
- Local development projects - Wayne indicated that the City Planning Board would meet on November 20 (next evening) to consider a preliminary subdivision plan for 308 units of the Wampanoag Meadows project. The Kettle Point project (mixed use development) is going through the CRMC review process and the Teacher's Credit Union lot is being considered for future development.
- Park/Playground Projects - Wayne reported that work on the Silver Spring Playground project will continue as the City apparently has some funding available to provide the necessary match to obtain a DEM grant for the project.
- Seekonk Accessible Trail - The Newman YMCA led effort to create a handicap accessible trail behind the Seekonk Town Hall has been completed and is now open to the public. Wayne reported that the trail is nicely designed and provides easy access through the Town-owned property.

Correspondence

- RI Tree Council - Wayne reported the RI Tree Council had submitted its annual appeal for membership fees, but the Commission has no budget to support such requests.

Old Business

- Hunt's Mill Terrace Garden project - The Commission discussed trail maintenance as a major spring project at Hunt's Mill. Details will be determined at a later Commission meeting.

DRAFT

- Boyden Heights GPX mapping project - The Commission will consider the GPX mapping as a winter project.

New Business - None

Commission Member Items

- Chair Nik asked Commission members if the December meeting should be cancelled. All agreed and the Commission voted to hold the next meeting on January 21st.

Adjournment

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM on a motion by J. Rose and seconded by J. Burridge.

The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:30 pm** in Room A (1st floor) East Providence City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary