

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

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2009 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

MICHAEL J. ALEXANDER - CHAIRMAN
ANTHONY E. PERROTTI – VICE CHAIRMAN
DORIS BRAIS – TREASURER, arrived at 8:11 pm
DANIEL FLYNN
MICHAEL GRAVIER
MICHAEL MARSEGLIA
ANNE McGINN

MEMBERS ABSENT:

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Michael Alexander called the March 4, 2009 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:30 PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The approval of the February 4, 2009 minutes. Motion by Anne, seconded by Tony.
Voted to approve. Doris had not arrived.

- III. PUBLIC COMMENT:** T. Joseph Almond, Town Administrator and Dave Sale , Recycling Coordinator. Stated that they are going to implement in the near future a “No Recycling, No Trash” police in town. Dave stated that there is an ordinance already, but it needs to be implemented. The town would like to increase the recycling from 20% to 50%. Some other towns that have implemented this policy are up to 40% recycling. Mr. Almond stated that if we don’t recycle more, the land fill will be almost full. Tipping fees will be more if the program is not implemented. The Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) will give money back to the town, if there is more recycling collected. Mr. Almond stated that the town needs to educate the town before the program is started. Dave stated that there was a survey done around town and that some recycle paper only, some recycle plastic only, but about 12 of 24 people do not recycle at all. Dave stated tat they would like to start the program in the spring. This would have some expenses involved, including more bins, brochures, postage for mailing, etc. Dave stated that there is a misuse of the bins, so therefore there will be a charge to receive a new bin. Mike questioned the condominiums involvement. Dave stated that the condominiums are not included because they have a waste hauler pickup all their trash. The schools are recycling. Dave stated that with the help of the RIRRC and the CC, the town will put together a brochure and come up with a time frame to implement the program. This will include a mailing and possible flyer to the schools.

Mr. Almond stated that the town is going to start repairing sidewalks. There are some trees that need to be cut down because they are causing the sidewalks to lift and this causes accidents. Mr. Almond stated that there will be better trees planted. The town will sub out this service to have the trees cut down.

Mike asked Mr. Almond on the status of Smithfield Avenue and the water problem. Mr. Almond stated that the contractor needs to come back to fix the drainage problem.

Doris arrived at 8:11 pm.

Doris asked about senior citizens only having a little to recycle. Dave stated that the recycling drivers will know which senior citizens recycle. As long as there is at least one blue or green bins out, the trash will be picked up.

Dave stated that the RIRRC wants the town to get up to 50% of trash recycled. Dave stated that the RIRRC needs to also consider collecting more kinds of recycling. Not just #1 & #2’s.

Mike questioned Dave about Chase Park and the dogs off the leashes. Dave said that the police department, Officer Ray Bousquet, is now in charge of the Dog Officers, so between the police and the dog officer, they are going to start handing out fines.

IV. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Ayoub Engineering – Letter dated March 2, 2009. Introduction of the firm and what they could do for the town.
RITree Sentinel – Spring 2009 Issue.

V. **WETLAND APPLICATIONS:** None

VI. **COMMISSION PROJECTS:**

Organic Community Garden- Mike A. showed Mike M. the organic garden. The garden looks good, but there was no one there to speak to.

Butterfly Garden –Mike A. stated that this years cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 18th. Mike stated the compost bins need rebuilding and the water line is going to be repaired before the cleanup. Dan suggested cleaning out the bittersweet on the hillside and trimming the trees within the garden.

Open Space – Anne stated that she had been in touch with the Aquidneck Land Trust. She received their brochure on promoting Open Space. Dan asked if there was a list for Lincoln. Anne stated that people are sensitive to there names being put on an open space list. Mike M asked which projects got the state 70 million Open Space bond money? Mike M stated that the Dem website had a press release. Anne stated that there are 2009 grants awarded, but does not know if Al Rinaldi applied for them. Mike G stated that Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce (NRICC) has a 1% environmental program, where business pledge 1% of their sales to be given for environmental issues. Businesses all over the world give. Anne stated that Al Rinaldi wants to update key areas between existing open space areas for future considerations. Anne stated that if someone knows the town might be interested, then the value of the property goes up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Recycling – Anne will follow-up with the Dave Sale.

Memorial Day Parade – Dave Sale is going to check on the status of using the RIRRC float.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Dan would like to start a compost program in the schools.

Dan stated that he concerned about the placement of the new senior center to the left of the middle school. He asked why it would be allowed if DEM says no. He suggested someone attending the meeting regarding the senior center. Dan said he would like to walk the land and take note of the wetland vegetation. He said he would get the drawing of the property showing the water detention ponds.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Tony made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anne seconded. Vote unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie B. Alexander
Recording Secretary, Lincoln Conservation Commission