

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

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2011 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

MICHAEL MARSEGLIA - CHAIRMAN
ANTHONY E. PERROTTI – VICE CHAIRMAN
LESLIE B. ALEXANDER – SECRETARY
FRANCO ALFIERI - TREASURER
DORIS BRAIS
MICHAEL GRAVIER
ANNE McGINN

MEMBERS ABSENT

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mike Marseglia called the September 14, 2011 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:35 PM.

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Mike M. asked for the approval of the August 3, 2011 minutes. A motion made by Leslie. Anne stated that there needed to be a change in Section VI, paragraph 1, line 2. Change to “They stated they govern...” and Section VII, second paragraph, line 2. Change to “man made sign”. With these changes, there is a seconded by Tony. The motion is voted unanimous to approve.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Woodard & Curran , Summer 2011 Volume 19 publication.

V. WETLAND APPLICATIONS: None

VI. COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Organic Community Garden (OCG)- Leslie stated that she spoke to Bruce Balon, treasurer of the Organic Community Garden group. He stated that he has not received an answer from the group pertaining to the money, from the CC, for the potential shed.

Butterfly Garden (BFG) – No report.

Rain Garden- Mike M. stated that he will revise the letter that was sent to Mr. Almond back in March, to reiterate the CC plans for the rain garden at The Center. The letter will state that the planting will be finished no later than October 31st. The plantings will also follow the plan from the engineer. Leslie stated that the CC still has approximately \$300.00 in credit with Lincoln Gardens. Anne asked for a clarification on who is doing the work at The Center. Mike M. stated that it would be the CC doing the work. Leslie stated that she would organize some volunteers. It is agreed the CC to work on Saturday, October 22nd. Leslie questioned what kind of plants and the quantity. Mike M. stated that he has a copy of the engineer’s plans. Anne made a motion to spend \$500.00 from the budget on the rain garden plants. The motion is seconded by Doris. Mike M. stated that there is already a credit with Lincoln Gardens. Anne amended her motion for \$250.00. The motion is seconded by Doris. The motion is unanimously approved.

Shady Brook – Leslie stated that she would like to get some large stones to the property to stop people from parking their cars almost on top of the new plantings.

Open Space – Anne stated that she is waiting for the changes. Mike G. questioned the intention on getting them out to the public. Anne stated that the CC could request the brochure be put on the Town website and have copies sent to the elementary schools.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

Franco stated that there is no report regarding the Adopt- A-Spot (AAS) program. Leslie stated that she spoke to someone at RIDEM and that the AAS program does not fall under the DEM division.

Leslie stated that she spoke to Anne Cole from the State's Compliance and Inspection Division regarding the salt pile at Automotive Services on Smithfield Avenue. She stated that, that size pile of salt is a violation and that she will have someone from her office follow-up with the owner of the property.

Mike M. stated that the CC should be more interactive with the Planning Board (PB) meetings. Leslie obtained a copy of the last couple of posted minutes and the agendas for the PB. Leslie stated that she will call Russell Hervieux, secretary for the PB, for the recent unofficial minutes. Franco stated that he would plan on attending the next PB meeting and the rest of the CC will then follow taking turns.

Mike M. stated that the Town's Comprehensive Plan has a list of the town's open space property from 2003. He stated that the list needs to be reviewed and updated. The CC should work with the Land Trust.

Mike M. stated that one of the projects that the CC should focus on is to attend the PB meetings. The CC needs to develop proposals for the budget for next year. Mike G. suggested educating the public. Franco suggested open space acquisitions. Leslie suggests finishing Shady Brook and moving on to another open space lot.

Mike M. stated that the CC elections will be next month.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Mike G. stated that he attended the National Parks meeting regarding The Blackstone Valley Region (BVR). The purpose of the meeting was to gather input and make recommendations to Congress. The main purpose is to convert the Blackstone Valley to a national park. This meeting consisted of several organizations, like Friends of the Blackstone. Doris questioned the point of making this a national park. Mike G. stated that we need money from the federal government to keep the BVR going. This would also include water mandates from the local areas. Anne stated that this was John Chaffee's vision. Mike M. asked what Lincoln's CC involvement would be. And what were other CC's are doing for the issue. Mike G. stated that it is important for the municipalities to acquire property along the BVR. Doris questioned if 1 organization would run the park. Mike M. asked what the next course of action is. Mike G. stated that recommendations would have to be made. Mike G. stated that the Congress might not pass the bill for economic reasons.

Mike G. stated that the CC should review Hazardous waste sites and Superfund Sites. This would be found on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) map.

IX. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The election of officers is scheduled for October 2011.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Leslie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tony seconded the motion. The motion is unanimous approved. The meeting adjourned 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Alexander, Secretary
Lincoln Conservation Commission