

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

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 4, 2012 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

MICHAEL MARSEGLIA -CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL GRAVIER –VICE CHAIRMAN
LESLIE B ALEXANDER-SECRETARY
FRANCO ALFIERI-TREASURER
DORIS BRAIS

MEMBERS ABSENT

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Michael Marseglia called the April 4, 2012 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:35 PM

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

No minutes to approve.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Seamus Sullivan from Environmental Rhode Island is here to discuss the banning of plastic bags.

Mr. Sullivan makes a few points of interest:

- The plastic bags will stop going into the rivers, bay and ocean.
- Washington State has banned bags within almost the entire state.
- Within the State of RI, Warren, Newport and Narragansett are almost ready to implement an ordinance. They are all concerned since they are all near water ways.
- The bags are bad for animals. Animals are getting tied up into the lose bags.
- The suggested ordinance by Environmental RI is to have stores charge the public for the papers bags and the ordinance is for the banning of single use bags only.
- Mr. Sullivan states that he has already approach some small stores in Lincoln and they are all for the program.
- Washington State is turning plastics into oil fuel.

Mike G. has asked what the solution is. Mr. Sullivan states that they are asking the public to use paper bags or reusable bags. Franco states that instead of banning the bags, how about just recycling the bags with the weekly recyclables. He states that there must be a better way that to have the government passing ordinances. Mike M. asked if the suggested ordinance is based on the Washington State model. Leslie's concern is that Stop & Shop is using too many bags, due to the fact that they are so thin, something heavy breaks the bag. Franco states that he doesn't want someone telling him that he has to bring a canvas bag into CVS for a couple of things. Mike M. suggests that RIRRC start a bag collection. Discussion has been tabled until next meeting.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

A correspondence regarding single stream recycling. This means having only one bin to collect both paper and plastics. Leslie will inquire with Dave sale on whether the Town is going to implement this program.

A copy of the letter that the Finance Office sent to the State Legislative Grant Office regarding last year's grant expenditures. There is still a balance from last year that can be spent this year.

V. WETLAND APPLICATIONS: None

VI. COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Organic Community Garden-No report.

Butterfly Garden-Leslie made a motion to purchase mulch, weed killer, food and incidentals for the BFG cleanup from the grant fund. Doris seconded the motion. The motion is unanimously approved.

Rain Garden- Mike M. stated that he spoke to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) regarding the rain garden at The Center. Mike M. stated that they reviewed the garden and made some suggestions on how to capture more of the rain water. They also suggested more plants, mulching instead of rocks and putting a berm on the east side of the garden to slow down the runoff from going through the garden. The NRCS is concerned about the north east side of the property where there is pooling water. It may be a potential for breeding mosquitoes. Mike M. will speak to Al Ranaldi regarding the suggestions.

Shady Brook –No report

Open Space –No report.

Adopt-A-Spot-Franco stated that he has not received all the CC members list of potential AAS areas. He has obtained a copy of Woonsocket’s ordinance. Franco stated that each town basically follows the States guidelines

VI. OLD BUSINESS:
By-Laws – No report.

Kirkbrae Subdivision-Mike M. stated that he understands that the subdivision is going through.

CC Budget-Mike M. stated that he attended the budget board meeting and the CC budget is status quo.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

IX. ADJOURNMENT:
Leslie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike M. seconded. Vote unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie B Alexander, Secretary
Lincoln Conservation Commission