

## **Minutes of meeting, April 12, 2012**

**The Cumberland Conservation Commission (CCC) met on April 12 at 6:35pm at the Arnold Mills Community House, 75 Hillside Rd., Cumberland with George Gettinger presiding. In attendance were Briscoe Lang Julie Guerin, Mike Scalzi, Greg Myers, Dick Morrissey, and Mr. Ed O'Brien.**

**Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were approved.**

**Treasurer's report: Mr. Lang reported that there will be an \$875 balance in the treasury for the current fiscal year after the following expenses were approved: \$250 to the Land Trust, \$100 in RIACC dues, \$350 for photo contest expenses, \$50 to Mr. O'Brien for printing costs on behalf of the CCC, \$175 registration reimbursements for attendees of the Land and Water conference.**

### **Old Business**

**Photo contest – Dr. Gettinger reported that he has submitted the initial press release to the Valley Breeze that Mr. Monaghan wrote. He will follow up on having the rules posted on the town's website prior to the start of the contest on April 22. Mr. Myers reported that he presented the photo contest rules and background at the Town Council meeting on April 4. Dr. Gettinger and Ms Guerin attended the meeting as well.**

**Monastery trails – Mr. Morrissey introduced Mr. Ed O’Brien, the head of the RI Surveyor’s Association. Mr. O’Brien presented his proposals for mapping of the trails at the monastery and provided beautiful color photos of the property with 4 distinct trails overlaying it. Some actions that still need to be taken are to identify where signs will be appropriate, evaluate if a kiosk is an option, and decide where to have maps available, either in hard copy or on the internet or both.**

**Emerson property – Dr. Gettinger walked the Emerson property on Tuesday, March 20 with Mr. John Monroe from the National Park Service – Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program. Mr. Monroe recommended forming a town trails council to oversee all trails on town-owned property. He also suggested inviting off-road vehicle drivers to be part of the planning process. Mr. Monroe will be available to the CCC on an ad hoc basis as needed going forward. Mr. O’Brien offered to research if there is public access to or near to the historic Beacon Pole Hill site.**

**Ms Lisa Primiano, Deputy Chief in the Division of Planning and Development at the Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM), will be invited to attend the May meeting. She has some information from the DEM on enhancing the usability of the Emerson property and trail development.**

**Land and Water Conservation Summit – The summit was held on Sat., March 10. Ms Guerin forwarded an updated expense reimbursement**

**form to members who attended: Ms Medeiros, Mr. Morrissey, and Mr. Myers.**

## **New Business**

**Communications – Dr. Gettinger informed members of two upcoming events: The 27th Annual RI Statewide Preservation Conference for Woonsocket and the Blackstone River Valley in Woonsocket, RI on Sat., April 21, and the Blackstone Think Green Tour sponsored by the BV Dept. of Tourism on Sat., May 12.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Julie M. Guerin**

**Secretary**