



Conservation Commission

George B Gettinger - Chairman

Greg Myers - Secretary

Augustus Uht

Alex Marszalkowski

Briscoe Lang – Vice Chairman

Walter Burke

Timothy Mooney

Minutes of Meeting, April 10, 2014

The Cumberland Conservation Commission (CCC) met on April 10, 2014, at 6:30pm, at the Hayden Center in the Cumberland Public Library, Meeting Room 4, 1464 Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island, with George Gettinger presiding. In attendance were Briscoe Lang, Alex Marszalkowski, Tim Mooney, Greg Myers, and Gus Uht.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm.

Approval of Minutes from the March 2014 meeting were tabled until next month.

Mr. Lang reported that we have \$2,000 left in the budget after the \$500 donation to the Cumberland Land Trust for the acquisition of property behind Diamond Hill Reservoir. Also, Mike Scalzi wrote the Commission on behalf of the Blackstone River Watershed Council (BRWC) requesting \$340 towards the purchase of equipment for cemetery restoration. A motion to donate the \$340 to the BRWC for this purpose was brought to the floor and was passed.

The Commission also received notice from the DEM that the Diamond Hill Park Wetlands Alteration process has moved forward, and the subject is now open for public comment. The idea of sending the same letter to the DEM that the Commission sent to the Town Council was discussed.

George Gifford had suggested to Mike Narcise of the Army Corp of Engineers that the CCC can monitor the pond at Diamond Hill Park. This idea was discussed amongst members of the CCC during the March meeting and it was agreed that no, the CCC does not have the man-power to effectively run a monitoring program for the pond.

Regarding the Management Plan that Mr. Mooney drafted, Mr. Lang suggested the draft is ready for input. It was the consensus of the Commission that the draft should be send simultaneously to (1) Lisa Primiano, or her designee at the DEM, and to (2) the Planning Department, to be distributed to other town agencies as necessary, requesting feedback.

Mr. Lang and Mr. Mooney plan to meet Saturday morning at 9:00am to walk and map the trails in Diamond Hill State Park.

RIACC has requested that the Commission replace John Monahan as our liaison to RIACC. Mr. Uht was appointed as the new liaison.

To aid in our efforts to map, develop, and maintain trails in town, Mr. Uht suggested using the book "Natural Surface Trails by Design," by Troy Scott Parker. Mr. Uht will obtain a copy for the Commission's use.

During the public comment period, the idea of drafting a Tree Ordinance for the town was broached again in a conversation with town resident Deborah Vine-Smith. She also inquired about the Commission's involvement in educational projects. The consensus was that, while such projects are praiseworthy, at the moment the Commission is focused on a number of other projects and doesn't have the time or resources to take on those issues right now.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.