



*TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

*Department of Community Development
235 High Street, Bristol, Rhode Island*

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

MAY 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

*Tony Morettini
Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Glenn Donovan
Lee Ann Freitas
Jay Maciel*

Staff Present:

Ed Tanner

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:33 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the April minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Freitas. Vote: 7-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner presented the 56-page Strategic Tree Canopy Plan prepared for the Town by the Green Infrastructure Center, Inc. which was positively received by all Commission members. Mr. Morettini led discussion on the Accessible Urban Tree Inventory (AUTI) system, in particular a key aspect of the application, that being the maintenance feature, which may be limiting. Mr. Morettini noted that alternative applications, such as Davey TreeKeeper, should be explored to address the automation of pruning and removal requests. Mr. Tanner mentioned that next steps for the Urban Forest Municipal Resilience Project, from which the Town received a grant from the RI Infrastructure Bank, will be to hold public workshops and send out notices to residents in affected areas with information on the proposed tree planting.
3. Keep Bristol Clean Up Day Wrap: Mr. Maciel provided a recap of the Town-wide clean up that took place on Saturday, April 27. 134 volunteers cleaned up 17 locations and collected a total of 740 pounds of trash and recyclables. It was noted that the clean-up was a very successful event.
4. Composting Study: Mr. Morettini said that he just received information from RWU students regarding the municipal composting study they did for their Sustainability Studies class, and that he will forward all the materials he received to Commission members.
5. Land and Water Acknowledgement: Mr. Morettini stated that he has received recommendations from several groups in Town in favor of establishing an Indigenous Land and Water Acknowledgement to honor the original inhabitants of our area. Next steps, he explained, would be to present the idea to the Town Council.
6. Route 114 Resilience Project: Mr. Tanner reviewed the Route 114 Resilience Plan that will address coastal flooding events that impact the main corridor that runs through the towns of Barrington, Warren and Bristol. A public workshop meeting to discuss plans for areas of vulnerability will be held on June 4 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

continued



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7. Around the Room: Mr. Morettini said he spoke to town resident George Voutes about our support of a "Leave the Leaves" campaign this fall. Ms. Green applauded the efforts of Cindy and Ed Mourra, proprietors of Prickly Ed's Cactus Patch Native Plant Emporium in Barrington, and their recent articles in the East Bay Life section of the Bristol Phoenix about eco-friendly garden tips. Mr. Tanner announced that Bristol's 2024 Arbor Day celebration and the planting of a *Nyssa sylvatica* or black tupelo will take place on Wednesday, May 15 at 5:00 p.m. at Veterans Park, where Little League baseball players will assist with the tree planting before their game. Mr. Payson provided a recap of Rhode Island Arbor Day celebrated on April 26 at Brayton Avenue Park in Cranston that he and Mr. Tanner attended. Mr. Payson passed on information about an Eco-Depot hazardous waste disposal event hosted by Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) that will take place on Saturday, May 18 at Warren DPW. Mr. Tanner said that he will forward a notice to Commissioners that he recently received from RI DEM regarding plans to improve the boat ramp and floating dock at Independence Park. Ms. Freitas made mention of her availability for a lecture presentation on climate resilience gardens.
8. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
9. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Maciel", is written over the typed name.

Jay Maciel