

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

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TOWN OF BRISTOL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Department of Community Development 9 Court Street, Bristol, Rhode Island

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 @ 5:30pm

APRIL 2021 MEETING MINUTES -

Members Present:
Tony Morettini
Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Glenn Donovan
Lee Ann Freitas
Jay Maciel

Staff Present: Ed Tanner

The video teleconference meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:30 pm.

- 1. Minutes: A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Mr. Donovan and seconded by Mr. Fisher. Vote: 7-0.
- 2. Open Space: Mr. Tanner reported on the status of the Cabral Property on Sousa Street. The open space application for consideration is still pending. A wetlands biologist visited the property and determined that there is no development potential. An appraisal would be needed to evaluate the property further. Liam Hartnett presented his Boy Scout Eagle project for trail maintenance at the Children's Grove. His project has been approved by the Boy Scouts of America and he anticipates work commencing this week, which includes the coordination of several volunteers.
- 3. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner said he will put together a list of tree planting requests from Town residents. He also said the Town will continue to buy trees in bulk and do the planting in house to realize a cost savings and to be able to plant more trees. Mr. Payson mentioned that the attention to watering is critical to the overall success of tree planting program.
- 4. Food Waste/Composting Initiative: Mr. Morettini said that he will be in contact with DPW Director Parella in order to establish a compost drop off hub spot on Minturn Farm Road.
- 5. Fertilizer Initiative: Mr. Morettini said he had a meeting today with Save the Bay, Save Bristol Harbor, and Loren Byrne from Roger Williams University to discuss a fertilizer program in Bristol. He said that all are engaged and they are closer to having a flyer. The goal of the flyer is to create a message for homeowners about the negative effects of fertilizer but also how to have a nice lawn. Mr. Morettini said Roger Williams University will provide input from students.
- 6. Pollinator Program: Ms. Freitas said that plants have been ordered and that she will maintain them until planting time. The proposed planting dates are May 22 and 23, with a rain dates being May 29 and 30. Approximately 15 volunteers will be needed. Compost will be delivered

TOWN COUNCIL

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MEETING



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APRIL 2021 MEETING MINUTES, continued

- and spread beforehand in a one-hundred-foot-long by four-foot-wide planting bed. A water tank will be purchased, and a watering schedule needs to be created. Mr. Payson asked about the need for deer fencing. Ms. Freitas said deer management needs to be addressed.
- 7. Chestnut Place Development Landscape Plan: Mr. Tanner provided an overview of the proposed Chestnut Place development that would be located near the Silver Creek watershed, but outside of the wetlands there. The project plans include retention ponds to handle runoff, a conservation area for stormwater mitigation, and tree, shrub and grass planting. Mr. Morettini made a motion to accept the landscaping plan as presented, which was seconded by Mr. Fisher, and passed with a vote of 7-0.
- 8. Arbor Day: Mr. Tanner said that there will be a tree planting on Arbor Day, April 30, as part of the Tree City USA program and that details will be forthcoming.
- 9. Town-Wide Cleanup: Mr. Maciel said there will be a Keep Bristol Clean town-wide clean up on May 1. He mentioned that in the past the Conservation Commission has adopted different locations to clean up, and he will explore possible sites for this year's event.
- 10. Around the Room: Mr. Payson drew attention to a recent article in the East Bay Life section of the Bristol Phoenix on dragonflies and damselflies by Ginger Brown.
- 11. The next Conservation Commission meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 5:30 pm.
- 12. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Payson, seconded by Mr. Morettini, and the meeting ended at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jay Maciel