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2022 MAR 22 PM 1:35

TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

Tuesday, October 5, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

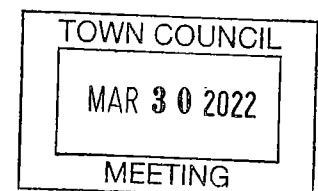
Tony Morettini
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Lee Ann Freitas
Jay Maciel

Staff Present:

Ed Tanner

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:35 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the September minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Green. Vote: 5-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner said there are plans to plant twelve trees as part of the fall tree planting cycle. Mr. Tanner also reported that all trees planted during the summer cycle are doing well.
3. Pollinator Garden Initiative: Ms. Freitas presented a poster and potential story board she created for the pollinator garden project, which included a narrative about the project, photos of the pollinator plants, and photos of the pollinators that those plants support. Ms. Freitas then provided an update to the project, noting that compost has been ordered and will be delivered soon, plants have been ordered, the tentative planting dates are October 22 and 23 but that planting can actually be done into November, and that approximately ten volunteers will be needed. Possible help from the garden club was discussed. There was also discussion about potentially obtaining water from the nearby condominium association. Mr. Morettini said he will report to Sara Churgin of the Eastern RI Conservation District about the progress of the project thus far.
4. Fertilizer Initiative: Mr. Morettini said that there have been approximately 4000 Healthy Yards/Healthy Waters flyers distributed so far, mostly through the Bristol Phoenix. Mr. Morettini said that folks are engaged and that next steps include getting the word out to landscapers.
5. Golf Course Project: Mr. Tanner said that more plants have been planted, and there will be even more to plant. Mr. Tanner also said that they are close to getting a new electricity source to the course, and that there is an RFP in the works for a water pump.





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6. Path Clearing Working Groups: Mr. Morettini said that path clearing needs to be done at the Children's Grove and at the Perry-Tavares Farm to take care of the overgrowth and fallen trees. It was also noted that the Elmwood Drive bridge needs attention to take care of the gravel that has washed away.
7. Announcements/Around the Room: Mr. Morettini provided an overview of the Vermont Current Use Program which provides a favorable tax incentive (up to a 70% tax break in property taxes) to landowners who keep their land as a farm or forest and agree not to develop the land. Mr. Morettini also provided an overview of the Vermont Land Gains Tax which taxes land sold that has been held less than six years and was designed to discourage subdividing or reselling property held for a short time. Ms. Green noted that Dollar General is still using plastic bags and that Ray Falcoa, the Town's Code Compliance Officer, should be notified. Ms. Green addressed her concern again about the dangerous amounts of rainfall we've experienced recently and its impact on the community. Mr. Tanner replied that there is a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan in place to build resiliency against storm damage and that there are drainage plans in place to address stormwater runoff.
8. The next Conservation Commission meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.
9. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Green, seconded by Mr. Maciel, and the meeting ended at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay Maciel".

Jay Maciel