

TOWN OF BRISTOL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Tony Morettini Ray Payson Lindsay Green Craig Fisher Glenn Donovan 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 October minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Green. Vote: 6-0.
- 2. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner said there are plans for twelve more trees to be planted this fall as part of the Town's tree planting program.
- 3. Pollinator Garden Initiative: Mr. Morettini said that, due to the rain last Saturday, the pollinator garden planting on Metacom Avenue will be rescheduled sometime soon.
- 4. Fertilizer Initiative: Mr. Morettini said that he spoke to the manager of Ace Hardware about the fertilizer program. Mr. Morettini said he also dropped off a Healthy Yards/Healthy Waters flyer with the store manager who said he would look at it.
- 5. Plastic Bag Enforcement: Mr. Morettini stated that Ray Falcoa, Town of Bristol Code Compliance Officer, visited Ace Hardware and Dollar General to point out that they were not in compliance with the plastic bag ordinance. Although Ace Hardware was using plastic bags that may have been four mils thick, they did not have stitched handles as required in the ordinance.
- 6. Golf Course Project: Mr. Tanner said the Town just awarded the bid solicitation for the irrigation pump at the golf course, and that the electric supply for the pump is in. Mr. Tanner also said the Town is also looking for a company to operate the golf course.
- 7. Rain Barrel Project: Sara Churgin, District Manager of the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District, provided an overview of the rain barrel program she sponsors and the make your own rain barrel workshop she would like to have for Bristol residents in the spring. Fifty-gallon drums are donated by Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast and are made available to residents to convert into rain barrels, with the ultimate goal of mitigating stormwater and protecting the area's watershed from harmful runoff.

TOWN COUNCIL

MAR **3 0 2022**

MEETING



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NOVEMBER 2021 MEETING MINUTES, continued

- 8. Announcements/Around the Room: Mr. Morettini announced that he has made arrangements for Commission members to tour the Fields Point Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) storage project on December 7, 2021. Mr. Maciel shared electronic waste information, first, with the two state facilities available for disposing computers and televisions, one being in Barrington and the other in Johnston and second, two upcoming electronic recycle drop off events in Bristol: Saturday, November 13 at Mount Hope Farm Farmers Market and Saturday, November 20 at the Bristol Transfer Station. Mr. Tanner said that Teresa Crean of the URI Coastal Resources Center recently gave a presentation on coastal flooding and sea level rise in Bristol, and its effects on properties within the coastal flood zone. A workshop she led included an overview of Beach SAMP (RI Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan) and tools available to map flood areas due to storms and sea level rise. Its importance is highlighted because the Town's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan has to be updated for climate change factors and the need to develop resilience to these factors. Mr. Payson handed out a copy of an article from the Providence Journal about the emerald ash borer entitled "Insect that kills ash trees continues to spread in RI". Town resident Emily Spinard spoke to the Commission to express her objection of the proposed hotel project on Gooding Avenue, citing flooding issues experienced in the area.
- 9. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be in January, 2022, TBD, as the aforementioned CSO tour will take the place of the December monthly meeting.
- 10. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Payson, seconded by Mr. Donovan, and the meeting ended at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jay Maciel