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TOWN OF BRISTOL  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 @ 5:00pm

**FEBRUARY 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

*Members Present:*

Tony Morettini

Ray Payson

Lindsay Green

Craig Fisher

Glenn Donovan

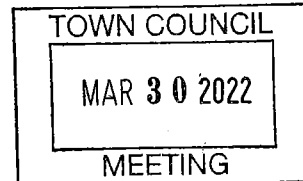
Jay Maciel

*Staff Present:*

Diane Williamson

*The video teleconference meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:03 pm.*

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Green. Vote: 6-0.
2. Open Space: Mr. Morettini raised a concern voiced to him about the tree structures at the Perry-Tavares Farm. Ms. Williamson noted the same concern conveyed to her by RI DEM, and that they could be perceived as being used for deer hunting. Ms. Williamson will contact the DPW to inquire about removing them.
3. Tree Program: Mr. Morettini reported that Steve Saracino, the Town Tree Warden, is happy with the work the DPW is doing planting trees.
4. Food Waste/Composting Initiative: Mr. Morettini said he sent a note to Town Administrator Contente to revisit the offer previously made about placing a compost drop off hub spot on Minturn Farm Road after Galilean Seafoods pulled out of their commitment to placing a hub spot on their premises.
5. Fertilizer Initiative: Mr. Morettini reported that he, Ms. Green and Mr. Donovan were in on a call with Save the Bay members Jed Thorpe, Wenley Ferguson, Katy Dorchie, and Topher Hamblett to discuss what a fertilizer program in Bristol might look like. Save the Bay is in full support, and envision Bristol being a model community for this effort. Ms. Green said it was a productive meeting, in particular mentioning the topics of lawn mowing and stormwater runoff that were discussed. Save Bristol Harbor is also interested in participating. Mr. Morettini mentioned the next step, that being the defining of deliverables, such as homeowner awareness. Mr. Morettini said he will be in on a call with Roger Williams University Professor Loren Byrne to have a conversation on fertilizers with regards to urban lawns and urban landscapes.





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***FEBRUARY 2021 MEETING MINUTES, continued***

6. Bike Path Connector Project: Arnold Robinson, the project coordinator from Fuss & O'Neil, gave a presentation to the Conservation Commission, who also act as the Tree Commission, on the plan for a bike path along the Ferry Road right of way. Ms. Williamson began with an overview of the project. Mr. Robinson then reviewed the proposed bicycle and pedestrian plan improvements for Ferry Road with an emphasis on how trees would be handled. Particular note was made where a paved path would split and go around a tree in the right of way. A tree inventory prepared by Stanley Tree Service was presented, listing all trees in the Ferry Road section of the project. 41 trees along the path were identified in the inventory, of which 20 would be retained and 21 would be removed. The condition of the ones to be removed were noted as follows: 3 were Good, 4 were Fair, 4 were Fair/Bad, and 10 were Bad. It was noted that any bike path construction plans would include the planting of new trees.
7. Announcements: Mr. Maciel announced that the RI and MA Land Conservation Conference will take place online on March 19 & 20, 2021, and the early registration deadline is March 5, 2021. Mr. Maciel also shared an announcement from the Mt. Hope High School Environmental Club who will be selling and planting 160 trees to offset the school's paper usage.
8. The next Conservation Commission meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at 5:30 pm.
9. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Ms. Green, and the meeting ended at 6:27 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted:*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Maciel", is written over a horizontal line.

*Jay Maciel*