



**TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Ed Tanner

Member Absent:

Lindsay Green

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:36 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the September minutes, as amended, was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Freitas. Vote: 6-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Morettini said he has requested a demonstration of the Davey TreeKeeper tree inventory software that could potentially replace OpenTreeMap, which is no longer available. Mr. Tanner reported on the status of the RI Infrastructure Bank Municipal Resilience Program Action Grant. The request for bid for the purchase of the first round of 90 trees has gone out. A separate bid for planting has also gone out. The Town Tree Warden, Steve Saracino, has sited all 90 trees. Discussion ensued about the trees for the planting program.
3. Land Acknowledgement: Mr. Morettini reported on the status of the Sowams Land Acknowledgement which was adopted by the Town Council on September 18. An amended acknowledgement (Resolution No. 2024-9-18-H1 with the word "reconcile" being removed) was passed by the Council 4-1, with Mr. Teixeira being the sole vote against the resolution. Mr. Morettini read the acknowledgement and shared a copy of the resolution (see attached copy) with Commissioners. Mr. Morettini said the next steps will be defined soon, such as signage, an event, and other culture or history offerings. Ms. Freitas said that the Land Acknowledgement was read at all Bristol schools this morning in celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day.
4. Composting Effort: Mr. Tanner said that the Town has submitted a grant application for a USDA NRCS Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) pilot project of curbside compost pickup. 75% of the project costs would be covered by the grant, with the remaining 25% of costs being split between the Town and the environmental organization 11th Hour Racing.

continued



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5. Pollinator Pathway: Mr. Morettini questioned the Pollinator Pathway signs that have been seen at various places in Town, and about its designation. Ms. Freitas said the pollinator garden needs weed pulling and the cutting back of certain plants. It was decided to meet on Friday, November 1, at 2:00 p.m. to perform maintenance there.
6. Around the Room: Mr. Tanner announced there will be two Resilient Route 114 Plan regional public workshops, one in Warren on October 21, and one in Barrington on October 29. Mr. Tanner also announced there will be a Storm Water Mitigation session for Bristol residents sponsored by the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District (ERICD), who will provide information on the benefits of having a rain garden on their property.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, at 10:30 a.m.
8. The meeting ended at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jay Maciel

Bristol Town Council

**Resolution
NO. 2024-9-18-H1**

**ADOPTION OF
SOWAMS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bristol, Rhode Island here by adopts the following land acknowledgement;

Welcome to Sowams, the home of the Pokanoket Tribe for over ten thousand (10,000) years prior to settler colonization

We acknowledge that our community was a part of the larger ancestral homeland of the Pokanoket Tribe, and we recognize the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous People and their traditional territories.

As the place of Metacom's Seat, at the base of Potumtuk (Mount Hope), let this acknowledgement serve as a reminder of our ongoing responsibility to recognize, honor and partner with the Pokanoket Tribal people for the benefit of the lands and water of Sowams.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Bristol hereby acknowledge and certify that at a meeting of the Bristol Town Council held on September 18, 2024, being duly noticed and with a quorum present and voting, the aforesaid was adopted.

ADOPTED this 18th day of September, 2024

ATTEST:


Melissa Cordeiro, Council Clerk

