



*TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

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

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

JULY 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

*Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Glenn Donovan
Lee Ann Freitas
Jay Maciel*

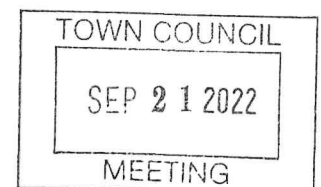
Staff Present:
Ed Tanner

2022 SEP -8 PM 2:49
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

The meeting was called to order by Vice-chairman Payson at 5:37 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the June minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Donovan. Vote: 6-0.
2. Open Space: Mr. Tanner provided an update to the proposed acquisition of the ELJ property that is south of San Francisco Avenue, saying that an appraisal needs to be done. An open space grant was received by the Town from RI DEM for the purchase of this property.
3. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner spoke about a tree inventory application known through RI DEM which has the capability of tracking workorders for tree work such as pruning and removal. Mr. Fisher asked if tree information could be imported from the current tree app so as to be used in the new app, to which Mr. Tanner replied yes. For the Town's tree planting program, Mr. Tanner said that the purchase of 36 trees has been put out to bid. Mr. Tanner then provided a review of the tree planting of 13 American linden trees along Metacom Avenue at Roger Williams University: National Grid paid for the trees, the Town paid for the planting, watering bags have been placed on the trees and RWU will maintain them. Lastly, Mr. Tanner said that he has updated the list of tree requests from Town residents for the fall planting cycle.
4. Pollinator Garden Initiative: Ms. Freitas said that signage needs to be done for the Metacom Avenue pollinator garden and that she will email proposed sign examples to Commission members. She also said a workshop needs to be done, first in house and afterwards, in the community. Ms. Freitas said that it is doubtful that some plants will come back after the recent weed whacking of the pollinator garden by DaPonte's Landscaping, and that we should consider replanting. Mr. Fisher said the Agastache should survive and then asked if we should weed the area to which Ms. Freitas replied yes. Mr. Fisher also said we should come up with an appropriate strategy for maintenance of the garden. Mr. Payson mentioned that St. Michaels Episcopal Church received a RWU community grant for and recently planted a pollinator garden on the south side of the church.

continued





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JULY 2022 MEETING MINUTES, continued

5. Leaf Blower Initiative: Different solutions to the gas-powered leaf blower problem were discussed. Items mentioned include: a potential seasonal limit by Mr. Fisher, required advances in battery technology for landscapers by Mr. Donovan, and potentially addressing the issue via a noise ordinance by Mr. Maciel.
6. Announcements/Around the Room: Mr. Tanner provided an update to the golf course project by saying that the irrigation system is working. He also said that all of the water quality improvements that have been made at the golf course could potentially be measured by reviewing trends in the water sampling done by Save Bristol Harbor for pollutants such as bacteria and nutrients. Ms. Green referred to a recent gift card offer she received from National Grid for switching over to smart energy and questioned if anyone else had received such an offer. Mr. Maciel said he received a correspondence recently from the president of the RI Association of Conservation Commissions announcing an upcoming workshop to discuss the future of that organization, and said he will forward this information on to Commission members.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022.
8. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Green, seconded by Mr. Maciel, and the meeting ended at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Maciel