



*TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

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

Tuesday, September 5, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

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

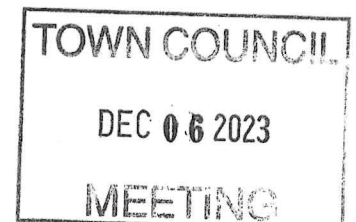
Staff Present:

Ed Tanner

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:01 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the July minutes was made by Mr. Payson and seconded by Mr. Fisher. Vote: 7-0.
2. Open Space: Mr. Tanner said that a 2024 Open Space Grant round was recently announced by RI DEM.
3. Tree Program: Mr. Tanner said that most trees are in for the current tree planting cycle. Mr. Payson asked if a list of trees recently removed was available to which Mr. Tanner responded yes, one was available. Mr. Morettini provided an update to the urban forestry project currently underway that is being led by the Green Infrastructure Center, and funded by a grant from RI DEM. The capacity building project is currently in the analysis stage with tree canopy mapping data and calculations being created, which will ultimately be used with tools and reports to address future tree canopy management and climate resiliency planning. A workshop designed to provide an overview of the project to the community is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Herreshoff Community Room at Rogers Free Library. Mr. Tanner spoke about potential opportunities available through the RI Infrastructure Bank's Municipal Resilience Program (MRP) to address local climate resilience projects.
4. Pollinator Garden Initiative: Ms. Freitas said that the pollinator garden needs to be weeded. It was agreed that this would be done on Saturday, September 16, 2023 at from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
5. Bristol Community Electricity: Mr. Morettini provided an update to the Energy Aggregation Plan. The RI Public Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing to review the Town of Bristol's request for approval of its community electricity aggregation plan on Tuesday, September 26, 2023. Mr. Morettini said he will provide written testimony on behalf of the Conservation Commission to the RI PUC in support of the effort.

continued





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SEPTEMBER 2023 MEETING MINUTES, continued

6. MyCoast: Mr. Payson said he attended a meeting in July held by URI's Coastal Resources Center to promote the use of the MyCoast app, designed to document the impact of shoreline events, such as king tides, with photographs.
7. RWU Sustainability Class Engagement: Mr. Morettini said that Roger Williams University faculty member Lydia Silva is looking for potential project ideas for her Sustainability Studies class. Ms. Green suggested the idea of a composting drop off site study for such a project. After some discussion, Mr. Morettini made a motion to suggest to the RWU Sustainability Studies class that they do a study on the benefits to a municipality for composting, to perform an analysis of best practices, and provide their recommendations to the Town of Bristol for municipal composting. Mr. Payson seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 7-0.
8. Around the Room: Mr. Payson handed out a copy of a recent On Wisconsin magazine article entitled Reclaiming Recycling: UW research may solve the plastic problem that menaces the planet. Mr. Donovan questioned why the RI Veterans Home doesn't recycle. Ms. Green reported that brush cutting on the Town's parcel of open space land on Lisa Lane had started this week. Mr. Maciel questioned the practice of stapling signs and trash bags to trees along the 4th of July parade route. It was agreed to look into alternatives next year with the Fourth of July Committee, as the DPW no longer does this for their temporary signs.
9. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
10. Mr. Payson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Donovan, and the meeting ended at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay Maciel". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jay Maciel