



**TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

Monday, June 13, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

JUNE 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Tony Morettini
Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Jay Maciel

Staff Present:

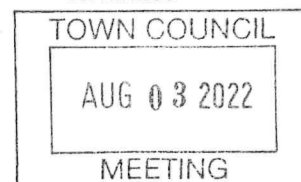
Ed Tanner

2022 JUL 26 PM 12:22
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:41 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the May minutes was made by Mr. Payson and seconded by Mr. Fisher. Vote: 5-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Morettini spoke about the tree inventory system migrating to the new Davey Treekeeper application and the new app's attributes, and also noted that the legacy system, OpenTreeMap, is still working. Mr. Morettini said he will contact Jon Greenberg of the Newport Tree Conservancy to inquire about the availability of the new app. Mr. Tanner mentioned that he attended a RI DEM workshop on urban forest management that highlighted a different tree inventory system, and said he would forward this information on to Commission members. Mr. Payson provided a wrap-up of the Arbor Day activities that took place at Guiteras School with a tree planting in memory of longtime teacher Linda Bruno. Mr. Payson mentioned that attention should be made to the watering of the new Kwanzan cherry tree planted there, to which Mr. Tanner replied that he would follow up with the principal, Christine Hughes, to ensure that this would happen. Mr. Tanner noted that the proposed spring tree planting cycle will now be rolled into the fall cycle, and that trees will be ordered now for delivery in September. Mr. Tanner said we have had very good success with trees remaining healthy when the plantings are done in the fall, and this avoids planting just before the hot summer season. Mr. Tanner also noted that thirteen linden trees have been planted at Roger Williams University along Ferry Road as part of the joint effort between the Town, RI DOT, RWU, and National Grid, now RI Energy, to replant and enhance the area, eventually including the center strip, with a new tree canopy.
3. Pollinator Garden Initiative: Mr. Morettini expressed his hope that the pollinator garden on Metacom Avenue that was cut down by the DPW would come back. Mr. Payson handed out, and spoke about, an informational brochure entitled "Rhode Island Bumble Bees". Mr. Fisher referenced the "No Mow May" movement, whose goal is to allow grass to grow unmown for the month of May, thereby promoting a habitat for early season pollinators.
4. Leaf Blower Initiative: Mr. Morettini said the leaf blower project will resume in the fall when it is a more appropriate time to address the issue.

continued





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JUNE 2022 MEETING MINUTES, continued

5. Community Electricity Aggregation: Mr. Morettini reviewed the Community Electricity Aggregation information presented in the last Conservation Commission meeting by Jamie Rhodes from Good Energy. After the review, Mr. Morettini made a motion to recommend to the Town Council that they pursue the creation of a Consolidated Energy Aggregation program for the Town of Bristol. Mr. Fisher seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.
6. Announcements/Around the Room: Mr. Tanner provided an update to the golf course project, reporting that the wetlands planting has been completed, bridges are being built, the irrigation system is being worked on, and that the greens are also being worked on. Ms. Green voiced her concern over the pollinator plants and bioswale gardens that were cut down at the Town Beach in the middle of summer last year, and her concern that it doesn't happen again this year. Mr. Tanner replied that he will talk with new Parks and Recreation Director Warren Rensehausen about the issue. Mr. Payson said he attended a recent memorial service for former Conservation Commission member Cliff Woods, noting his indelible contributions to the Commission. Mr. Payson also mentioned that the recent RI Natural History Survey BioBlitz was very successful. Mr. Morettini shared information on the Merlin Bird ID app that identifies bird calls.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022.
8. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and the meeting ended at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Maciel".

Jay Maciel