



*TOWN OF BRISTOL  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

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

*Tuesday, April 7, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.*

**APRIL 2026 MEETING MINUTES**

*Members Present:*

*Ray Payson, Vice-Chairman*

*Lindsay Green*

*Glenn Donovan*

*Lee Ann Freitas*

*Jay Maciel, Recording Secretary*

*Staff Present:*

*Nick Toth*

*Members Absent:*

*Tony Morettini*

*Craig Fisher*

*The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Payson at 5:38 p.m.*

1. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Ms. Green and seconded by Ms. Freitas. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.
2. Open Space: Commissioners agreed to schedule a site visit to the Mount Hope Community Forest on Tower Street on Friday, April 17 at 9:00 a.m. Signage and the potential for trails there may be discussed during the visit. Trail maintenance at the Perry – Tavares Farm was also discussed, including possible assistance from Building Futures RI, the Youth Conservation League, or Scouting America as an Eagle Scout project.
3. Tree Program: Mr. Toth reported that 79 free trees are expected to be delivered soon with locations for them currently under review. Mr. Toth announced that Rhode Island's Arbor Day celebration will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, April 24 at Slater Park in Pawtucket. The Town's Arbor Day celebration will take place on the Town Common with Our Lady of Mount Carmel School students at a date to be determined. A Liberty Tree Planting for the 250th Celebration is scheduled for May 15 at Independence Park. Mr. Toth noted that Mr. Tanner is reviewing the tree document prepared by Mr. Fisher. Mr. Payson referenced a tree management plan template available from The Morton Arboretum of Chicago.
4. Composting Program: Ms. Green reported that there are no updates.
5. Providence Leaf Blower Ordinance: A discussion was held regarding the leaf blower ordinance. Commissioners were asked to provide feedback, and discussion will continue pending this input.
6. Keep Bristol Clean: Mr. Maciel said the 37th Annual Keep Bristol Clean Town-wide cleanup will take place on Saturday, April 25 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Public outreach strategies were discussed, including an announcement in the *Bristol Phoenix* and a presentation to the Town Council at its April 22 meeting. Additional discussion focused on outstanding tasks, including identifying cleanup locations and arranging refreshments for participants.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
8. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

  
*Jay Maciel*