

East Providence Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2017

East Providence City Hall, Room A

6:30 PM

Members present: Wayne Barnes (City Liaison), James Boyd (Secretary), Ernie Germani (Vice Chair) and Keith Gonsalves (Chair)

Members absent: John Burrridge, Carissa Lord and Cheryl Vieira

Call to Order - Chair Keith Gonsalves called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Review of Minutes - The June 20, 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by E. Germani and seconded by K. Gonsalves.

Public Attendees - None

Public Comment - None

Planning Department Update

- URI Landscape Architecture program students under the supervision of Professor William Green will be conducting a design studio project this semester analyzing both sides of the Seekonk River from the Washington Bridge up to the Henderson Bridge for sustainability and climate resiliency.
- The proposed donation to the City of the Conaty property on Hoppin Avenue is scheduled for consideration by the Planning Board at their September 25 meeting. The next step in the adoption process will be to have the matter scheduled on the City Council docket for review and acceptance.

Correspondence

- Email from Save The Bay - update of Runnins River water quality study progress. It was reported that the Ten Mile River Watershed Council may be extending watershed stewardship responsibilities into the Runnins River watershed.

Old Business

- Willett Pond trail maintenance - it was reported that the City sprayed sections of the trail with herbicide to eliminate poison ivy. The trail still needs brush trimming to allow unfettered trail walking.

New Business

- Upland Road donation of land parcel - Wayne provided information regarding a proposed land donation to the City. The parcel abuts and is contiguous to other City-owned property. Next step would be for the property owner to obtain a Class 1 survey and title search, which are prerequisites for any land donation to the City.
- Fall projects - Commissioners discussed meeting on Saturday, November 4 to conduct some trail maintenance along Willett Pond. Detailed plans will be discussed at the next Commission meeting on October 17.

Commission Member Items

- Jim discussed completion of the Pawtuxet River watershed modeling project. The ArcGIS online map viewer for the flood inundation scenarios is located at:
<http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=d025e9fc58ae440a88b5ce590ddf a4cd>
- Wayne reported that RIDEM issued an enforcement notice regarding issue identified at the Turner Reservoir boardwalk and trail system. In particular an impromptu and unauthorized trail has been used as a short cut from the parking lot onto the main trail. It was indicated that the City will rectify and address the violation issues promptly.
- Ernie reported that the Hunt's Mill and coastal walks have been well attended this season.

Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 PM.

The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A at the East Providence City Hall.**

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary