

East Providence Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2022

City Hall - Room 308

6:30 P.M.

Members present: Waynes Barnes, James Boyd (Secretary), John Carney, Ernie Germani (Vice Chair) and Patrick Hanner

Members absent: Keith Gonsalves and Kelsey Queenan

Public Attendees: None

A. Call to Order: Vice Chair Ernie Germani called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

B. Review and Action of Meeting Minutes: The May 17, 2022 meeting minutes were approved by the Commission following a motion to approve with corrections by W. Barnes and seconded by P. Hanner.

C. Public Comment: None

D. Planning Department Update:

1. P. Hanner advised the Commission that major land development projects are in construction phases or being closed out and completed. In addition, the former Metacomet Golf Club property recently received City Preliminary Plan approval.

E. Correspondence: None

F. New Business

1. Project status update on Army National Guard remediation of former Rumford Rifle Range (Ten Mile River Greenway). The Planning Department is awaiting a planting plan to be implemented following remediation work. Commission members expressed concern of protecting replanted areas from dirt bike activity and potential for re-establishing pitch pine trees removed as part of remediation work.
2. Letter of support for City and Save The Bay grant application for removal of bridge abutment and stream restoration of the Runnins River. The Commission voted to approve sending a letter of support for the grant application on a motion by J. Boyd and seconded by P. Hanner.
3. Letter of support for NEIWPCC's grant application for invasive Water Chestnut management in Central Pond. Understanding the importance to eradicate the invasive water chestnut, the Commission voted to approve sending a letter of support for the grant application on a motion by J. Boyd and seconded by P. Hanner.
4. New City development projects. See Planning Department update above at D.1.

4. Comprehensive Plan update. P. Hanner distributed to Commission members via email the draft Natural resources chapter and maps for review and comment.
5. Rogers/Squantum Woods. An Eagle Scout will take on the restoration of an old historic trail at Squantum Woods starting in September-October 2022.

G. Old Business

1. Newman Crossing trailhead: J. Boyd had no new reports on the project planning.

H. Commission Member Items

- W. Barnes reported that the Boyden Heights boardwalk appeared to be in disrepair due to sagging structural support structure. The Commission will visit the site on July 19 to inspect and make recommendations for any necessary further action.
- J. Carney reported that he had panted flowers and weeded the garden area at the Boyden Heights Conservation Area parking lot. Thank you John!
- J. Boyd reported on filed cutting at Bridgham Farm.
- Vice Chair E. Germani indicated that K. Gonsalves will lead the 1:30 pm Hunt's Mill hike on July 10.

I. Adjournment - The Commission adjourned the meeting at 7:22 P.M.

The Conservation Commission will meet on **Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 4:30 p.m** at the Boyden Heights Conservation Area parking lot. This is not a formal meeting, but the meeting time will be used to inspect the boardwalk and trim brush along side the boardwalk.

Respectfully submitted,
James Boyd, Secretary