



JAMESTOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: J. Antonello, R. Laman, B. Lundy, A. Kuhn-Hines, S. Shim-Gorelick
Absent: R. Shein, L. Orsi

I. Roll Call and Call to Order: 7:04 pm

II. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes: March 14, 2023, **Motion to approve Meeting minutes 1st Joyce Antonello, 2nd Barbara Lundy, all in favor - motion passed.**

III. OPEN FORUM:

- A) Scheduled Requests to Address: None Scheduled
- B) Non-scheduled Requests to Address: None

IV. CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLS

A) Motion to approve reimbursement for Earth Day Fair printing costs to Anne Kuhn-Hines for \$154.08 (Staples bill), 1st Barbara Lundy, 2nd Joyce Antonello, all in favor - motion passed.

V. CRMC, RIDEM AND TOWN OF JAMESTOWN ORDINANCE REVIEW

Reviewed May 2023 CRMC Calendar for any JCC relevant issues
http://www.crmc.ri.gov/calendars/2023_05.html

Bob Laman discussed how the Harbor Management Commission is updating and renewing their 5-year Harbor Management plan that will be reviewed by and submitted to CRMC. Bob Laman will review drafts of the updated Harbor Management Plan and report back to JCC with summary/overview of changes for JCC review before submittal to CRMC.

VI. Old Business & Committee Reports:

A) Rights of Way/Parks/Greenways & Public Access: No updates on Trail Grant applications for upgrading and adapting the Kit Wright trail, as there has been no new announcements from RI DEM or other granting sources with funding available. The JCC will keep searching for trail grant funding opportunities. The JCC discussed how the recreation department is installing a split rail fence on the parking lot side at Mackerel Cove-and will coordinate dune planting in May with the JCC (possibly May 20th weekend)-the town will provide funding for the purchase of dune plants-and the JCC will install and oversee the dune planting and restoration. If planting is not feasible this Spring (gets too late in season for planting) then the JCC will plant beachgrass in the fall. The JCC discussed long-term plans for planting American beach grass (*Ammophila breviligulata*) at the JTN Community Farm for sustainable annual dune replenishment at Mackerel Cove and other sites across the island. Susan Shim-Gorelick volunteered to explore this option with the JTN Community farm and research methods for the establishment of American beach grass (and possibly other dune plants in the future) at the JTN Community farm.

B) Land Protection and Stewardship: Barbara Lundy reported that work is progressing with local Jamestown professional graphic designers with GIS skills on updating, designing, and producing a revised Conanicut Island Trails Guide. Barbara Lundy will explore printing costs with a couple of printing companies-and the JCC will then discuss how many to order and explore financing from the Town for printing costs.

C) Public Education: Earth Day 2023- Debrief on participant feedback-responses for JCC hosted Earth Day Fair 2023 (B. Lundy). The inaugural Earth Day Fair was a resounding success-there was a lot of discussion about new ideas to add for the Earth Day Fair going forward: more public education from groups like Save the Bay, Clean Ocean Access on issues like Microplastics, Public Access to beaches/coastline, strengthening coastal resiliency. Also, other ideas included more hands-on activities for kids, more involvement from the JTN schools, North Kingstown, and Narragansett High schools.

D) Cross-Jamestown Collaboration: The JCC will use the Environmental Earth Day fair to continue to connect and kickstart communications about community-wide collaborations with the other JTN environmental groups and try to coordinate a meeting with town council members and the other environmental groups working across Jamestown as soon as possible to discuss setting up a website supported by the Town. Education outreach initiatives could include water conservation, eco-friendly yard care, feeding wildlife, invasive plant control, dog waste/watershed protection; stormwater protection; coastal resiliency; community composting, etc.

E) Harbor Management Commission- Bob Laman reported back that two Kelp Farmers presented at a pre-determination hearing to the HMC-Bob reported that the two proposals were very well developed, providing lots of technical details and both were well received. Bob also reported that he and Steve Bois (HMC Chair) and Carol Nelson-Lee (JTN Friends of ROWs & Roads) will continue surveying the ROWs across the island and prepare an updated survey report for Town Council review and action. ROW # 20 on East Shore Road is a ROW that has been identified for restoration action. Bob will update at next JCC meeting.

F) Tree Committee- Barbara Lundy reported that the Tree Committee planted a tree at the Town Playground for Arbor Day, and the Tree Committee is continuing replanting/replenishing the JTN Tree nursery at the Community farm.

G) Gould Island Restoration- no new updates

I) Jamestown Affordable Housing Committee- no new updates Susan Shim-Gorelick is in touch with Bob Plain and Quaker Case and they will provide updates on any future meetings.

J) Jamestown Bike Path Committee-the committee is planning to develop maps for potential bike path linkages around town and the island, and in communication with the RI DOT about future road-bike path plans.

A) NEW BUSINESS

A) The next JCC meeting will be Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

B) ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn –8:25 PM –Motion to adjourn Susan Shim-Gorelick 1st, Barbara Lundy 2nd, all in favor-motion passed

Respectfully submitted by Anne Kuhn-Hines