

# East Providence Conservation Commission

January 17, 2012  
East Providence City Hall - Room 306  
7:30 PM

## Meeting Minutes

**Members present:** Lorraine Nik (Chair), John Rose (Vice Chair), Wayne Barnes, Frank Dias, Keith Gonsalves, and James Boyd (Secretary)

**Public present:** Tim Faulkner - EcoRI reporter

## **Call to Order**

Chair Nik called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

## **Review of Minutes**

After reviewing the November 15, 2011 meeting minutes the Commission voted to approve them with corrections on a motion to accept by W. Barnes and seconded by K. Gonsalves. J. Boyd abstained from voting as he did not attend the November meeting.

## **Planning Department Update**

Forbes Street landfill solar energy proposal - Wayne reported that the design and review of the project is an ongoing process and several issues have yet to be finished. A construction start date has yet to be determined.

Ten Mile River Fish Ladder update - The Hunt's Mill fish ladder is completed. The Turner Reservoir ladder is still undergoing construction, but is expected to be finished this Spring. The Omega pond fish ladder construction has begun and is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete. When completed, fish will have access along the Ten Mile River from the Seekonk River upstream to the dam at the Pawtucket Country Club.

## **Correspondence**

December 1, 2011 letter from the RI Association of Conservation Commissions concerning a presentation at the March 2012 Land and Water Summit meeting at URI. Wayne and Keith will be attending to represent the EP ConComm.

## **Continued Business**

2011 Conservation Commission Annual Report - Wayne drafted the annual report and had distributed previously to members for review and comment. The Commission voted to approve the report with changes as discussed on a motion by K. Gonsalves and seconded by J. Boyd.

## **New Business**

2012 Commission Work Plan - The Commission discussed a number of projects to focus on for 2012 and determined the following project would receive the Commission's priority:

1. Boyden Heights shoreline cleanup provided the current sewer line construction allows access to the site for trucks to pick up trash bags and other debris;

2. Hunt's Mill to continue more plantings on the trail loop and other improvements along with a general cleanup on Earth Day, April 21st;
3. National Trail Day in early June at Hunt's Mill; and
4. Boyden Heights trail and boardwalk maintenance

Commission Officer 2012 Election - The Commission voted unanimously to approve the 2012 Commission officers on a motion to maintain the current slate of officers by K. Gonsalves and seconded by W. Barnes. Lorraine Nik will serve as Chair, John Rose as Vice Chair, and Jim Boyd as Secretary.

EPA Urban Waters Grant - Wayne indicated that the EPA had issued a very competitive grant application process and he had several small projects in mind, but insufficient time to prepare and submit the grant application by the January 23 deadline.

George Kent Memorial Bench - The Commission briefly discussed the bench project and determined that it warranted further thought on funding mechanisms at a future meeting. Champlain Foundation grant perhaps?

### **Adjournment**

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM on a motion by K. Gonsalves and seconded by J. Rose.

**The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:30 pm in Room A (1st floor) East Providence City Hall**

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary