

## **East Providence Conservation Commission**

July 17, 2012

Boyden Heights Conservation Area, East Providence

6:30 PM

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Members present:** John Rose (Vice Chair), Wayne Barnes, Marie Esten, Keith Gonsalves, and James Boyd (Secretary)

**Member Absent:** Lorraine Nik (Chair)

**Public present:** None

**Call to Order** - J. Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

**Review of Minutes** - The Commission voted to approve the meeting minutes of June 19, 2012, as read, on a motion to accept by K. Gonsalves and seconded by M. Esten.

**Public Comment** - None

**Note:** The Commission met at the Boyden Heights Conservation Area on this meeting date, as noticed, to remove weeds and invasive vegetation around the gathering area of the parking lot. See New Business below for further details.

### **Planning Department Update**

**Ten Mile River Fish Ladder update** - K. Gonsalves reported that the coffer dam at the Turner Reservoir dam has been removed and the ladder has been completed. Fish ladder construction at Omega Pond has been delayed 6-8 weeks due to logistics.

**Correspondence** - None

### **Old Business**

**Boyden Heights Conservation Area** - As noted at an earlier meeting, trail access to the open slope, as a result of the sewer line project, needs to be addressed. Trail walkers appear to be crossing onto the open slope to gain access to the bike path rather than continuing on the trail to its end at the bike path. Although the slope appears to be well covered in grass, future erosion is a concern. The planting of additional shrubs could help to divert trail walkers away from the open slope and stay on the trails. The Commission will discuss these issues further at another meeting.

### **New Business**

**Boyden Heights Conservation Area** - The Commission cleared brush, weeds and invasive vegetation in and around the granite block gathering area adjacent to the parking lot. Members also inspected the boardwalk and trails and inventoried project lumber onsite for constructing a boardwalk stairway. Available lumber includes: three 4"x6"x8'; six 2"x6"x12'-14'; one

2"x4"x10'; and one 2"x6"x8'. W. Barnes indicated that he will continue to pursue funding sources for needed trail improvements and shrubs. M. Esten prepared a draft trail map (Thanks Marie!) that could be used for a future planned kiosk at the bike path trailhead. Further discussion and planning for a design will be considered at another meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM on a motion by K. Gonsalves and seconded by M. Esten.

**The next regularly scheduled Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 at 6:30 pm in Room A (1st floor) East Providence City Hall.**

Respectfully submitted, James Boyd, Secretary