

Burrillville Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order by: Ron Lapierre at 6:48pm.

Members Present: Ron Lapierre, Michael Longenbaker, Monique DeRoche, Paul Menard

Excused- Samantha Young, Adam Schatz, Roberta Lacey

Guests-

Accept November and December Minutes - Paul Menard motioned to accept, Michael Longenbaker seconded. Unanimously accepted.

Wallum Lake- Lake level at 585.0. Paul Menard reported. Dam open 12 inches currently. Paul monitoring water levels and consulting with other dam operators to make sure all lake levels remain at safe levels. Paul is logging any changes in dam operation and lake levels.

Anticipating a meeting with RI DEM on appropriate lake levels. per Scott Rabideaux report.

Town of Burrillville Wildlife Plan- Michael Longenbaker shared information from Samantha Young on the Burrillville Wildlife Plan. Samantha Young was not present to update.

Water Protection- Create an educational pamphlet for lakeside residents in Burrillville. Samantha Young was not present to update.

Quarterly Conservation Programs- Mike updated. Audobon presentation was very successful.

Ron Michael and Monique met with Martha B. about 2024 program, decided on 4 seasonal hikes at Branch river. Jan 24 guided Full-moon hike. Advert going in bargain Buyer this week.

In March BCC will host 2 special training sessions for volunteers at Burrillville library on Salamander Cross Over to support the spring migration of salamanders to vernal pools.

Michael L. and Roberta L. are looking at organizing a presentation at Burrillville library on coexisting with beavers.

Nipnuk Trail- Bog bridges have moved due to rushing water. Ron fixed the bridges he could. Some were missing from the rains and will need to be replaced. Tree down on red trail needs to be cut up.

Lapham Farm - Ron cleaned trails of downed trees. Some trash needs to be carried out and disposed.

Branch River -Two trails need trees cut down. Burrillville Middle School is very happy with improvements.

Lodge Trail - Ron and Mike cleaned out one large tree. Ron in communication with Andrea about marking trails and a possible walking arboretum in the back of the property of native trees.

Duck Pond- BCC members have been cleaning trash from the paths. Rep. David Place expressed appreciation for cleaning up the trails.

Union Pond Park- Trails are marked. Earth Day trash clean-up planned.

Gateways- Ron decorated and used artificial garland that we can reuse every year.

Other Town Meeting agendas- Wallum Lake property two lots with not enough frontage was taken off the Town Council agenda this month. This property is in a wildlife corridor and also includes some endangered species and is protected habitat. Ron will send a letter to the council outlining BCC concerns.

Budget- Ron reported BCC has spent \$4,073 out of our budget. Balance is \$7,876.67. FY 2025 Ron increased budget by \$300 for training. Land and Water Summit coming up in March.

Motion to reimburse for 140.38 to Ron for decorations for Gateways made by Michael Logenbaker. Seconded by Paul Menard.

Motion to reimburse for 38.36 Ron on paint for marking trails and for purchase of gate key for dam made by Michael Logenbaker. Seconded by Paul Menard. Unanimous agreement.

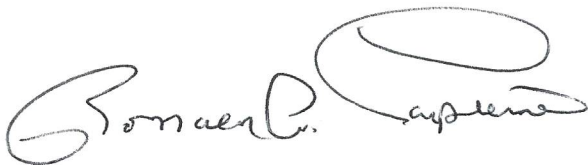
Motion to pay for an ad in the Bargain Buyer for BCC full moon hike in December 2023 made by Michael Logenbaker for \$82. Seconded by Monique DeRoche. Unanimous agreement.

Old Business- None

Next meeting February

Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by Michael Logenbaker at 8:14pm. Seconded by Paul Menard. Unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Ronald P. Lapierre, Chairperson / Date



Ronald P. Lapierre

2/20/24