



*TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

*Department of Community Development
235 High Street, Bristol, Rhode Island*

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

APRIL 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

*Tony Morettini
Craig Fisher
Glenn Donovan
Jay Maciel*

Staff Present:

*Ed Tanner
Members Absent:
Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Lee Ann Freitas*

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:34 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Donovan. Vote: 4-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Morettini reported that the Strategic Tree Canopy Plan prepared for the Town of Bristol was just received from the Green Infrastructure Center, Inc. and that he will forward it to Commission members for their review. Mr. Morettini said that he and Mr. Tanner met with Tree Warden Steve Saracino to review the tree request process and how it may fit with the Accessible Urban Tree Inventory (AUTI) system. Mr. Tanner reported grant agreements have been executed with the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank for the Municipal Resilient Program Action Grant the Town recently received. Mr. Tanner said that next, locations need to be identified for the 238 trees to be planted through mailers sent to residents of the targeted areas.
3. Clean Up Day: Mr. Maciel presented a project task list for the Keep Bristol Clean effort, which takes place on Saturday, April 27, 2024, and reviewed outstanding tasks for the effort, which included identifying locations in town to clean up. Mr. Maciel also reported that a \$200 sponsorship donation was received from BayCoast Bank and that he has applied for a \$750 Litter Free Rhode Island grant for the cleanup effort.
4. Composting Study: Mr. Morettini said that the municipal composting study being done by a Roger Williams University Sustainability Studies class is underway and that he will meet with students on Friday.
5. Land & Water Conservation Summit Recap: Mr. Maciel provided an overview of the conference he attended on March 9, 2024 at URI, including workshops he attended on Using the Public Trust Doctrine on Municipal Lands for Perpetual Conservation Protection, and Land Protection and Stewardship Using the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs.

continued



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6. Around the Room: Resident George Voutes was in attendance and spoke about the hazards of gas leaf blowers, healthier alternatives available, practical approaches to leaf blowing, and legislation recently introduced for battery-powered leaf blower rebates for professional landscapers who turn in their gas-powered leaf blowers. Residents Veronica Tucker and Margaret Godwin were also in attendance and submitted a letter to the Commission about the importance of native trees and plants.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
8. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jay Maciel".

Jay Maciel

Jay Maciel