



*TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

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

Monday, January 6, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.

JANUARY 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

*Tony Morettini
Ray Payson
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Jay Maciel*

Staff Present:

Ed Tanner

Member Absent:

*Glenn Donovan
Lee Ann Freitas*

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:33 p.m.

1. Minutes: A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Mr. Payson and seconded by Mr. Fisher. Vote: 5-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Morettini said that tentative dates have been suggested for a demonstration of the Davey Tree Keeper tree inventory software and that any meeting has to be coordinated with DPW Director Chris Parella and Tree Warden Steve Saracino. Mr. Tanner reported that the last of the trees for both the RI Infrastructure Bank Municipal Resilience Program (MRP) Action Grant and the Town's fall planting cycle have been planted. A total of 101 trees with a 1 ½ to 2-inch caliper were planted, 84 with the RI Infrastructure Bank program and 17 with the Town's tree planting program. All MRP trees were planted in the Tanyard Brook watershed. Mr. Tanner also mentioned that the upcoming spring MRP tree planting will focus on the Annawamscutt Drive and Silver Creek areas. Lastly, Mr. Tanner said that, in the spring, there is a plan to plant rosebud cherry and dogwood trees in the Ferry Road traffic island across from Roger Williams University.
3. Open Meeting Act Training: Mr. Morettini announced that there will be an Ethics and Open Meeting Act training session on January 30 at Bristol Town Hall.
4. Route 114 Flood Resilience Workshops: Mr. Morettini reminded Commissioners that there are two upcoming public workshops for the Route 114 Resilience Plan, one on January 13 in the Warren Council Chambers and one on January 21 at Bristol Town Hall.
5. Proposed 2025 Meeting Schedule: Mr. Morettini distributed the 2025 Meeting Schedule for the Conservation Commission's monthly meetings.

continued



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6. Response to Town Council Petition Regarding Lawn Treatment: Mr. Morettini conveyed a request from the Town Administrator who had solicited a recommendation from the Conservation Commission to a petition submitted by resident Gorge Voutes. The petition requests that an ordinance be enacted regulating the application of synthetic pesticides, insecticides and fertilizers. The Commission discussed several key points, including the value of our surrounding waters and the harm fertilizers can cause to our waterways, the importance of educating homeowners, commercial landscapers, and school children on best practices for fertilizer and pesticide application and the harm they can do to our ecosystems, and the impact of our Healthy Yards / Healthy Waters brochure in delivering this message. It was agreed that further study could help assess the potential effectiveness of an ordinance and its enforcement. Mr. Morettini was tasked with drafting a letter to the Town Administrator summarizing the Commission's findings.
7. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
8. The meeting ended at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jay Maciel