TOWN OF BRISTOL
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Ray Payson, Vice-Chairman
Lindsay Green
Craig Fisher
Jay Maciel, Recording Secretary

Staff Present:
Nick Toth
Members Absent:
Tony Morettini
Glenn Donovan
Lee Ann Freitas

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Payson at 5:35 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Payson. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.
2. Tree Program: Mr. Payson announced that a tree planting will take place on May 15 at Independence Park as part of the RI250 Liberty Tree Project, through which the Rhode Island Secretary of State's Office is gifting a red maple tree to each of Rhode Island's thirty-nine municipalities. Mr. Payson noted that Arbor Day will take place on Friday, April 24 and that an event in Bristol should be planned. Mr. Payson remarked that the Tree Management Plan should be revisited. Mr. Fisher said he will review the current plan and present it at the next meeting.
3. Composting Program: Stella Piasecki from the Eastern RI Conservation District (ERICD) was in attendance to discuss the Town's residential compost program. Ms. Piasecki gave an overview of the pilot program and expressed interest in collaborating with the Conservation Commission on public engagement efforts to promote the program. Identified goals include educating residents about the benefits of composting and increasing the participation rate of the curbside composting program. Ways to promote the program discussed include hosting a workshop or community event in partnership with the Conservation Commission and having a presence at local events such as the Farmers Market, the State Street Fair and Keep Bristol Clean.
4. Keep Bristol Clean: Mr. Maciel said the 37th Annual Keep Bristol Clean Town-wide cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, which occurs the same week as Earth Day. Commissioners are asked to identify locations in town that may be in need of attention.
5. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
6. Adjourn: With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Maciel

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