



TOWN OF BRISTOL  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Department of Community Development  
Court Street, Bristol, Rhode Island

Monday, September 12, 2016 @ 5:30pm

September 2016 MEETING MINUTES

*Members Present:*

Anthony Morettini, Chair  
Raul Abreu  
Alison Ring  
Lindsay Green  
Craig Fisher  
Jay Maciel  
Ray Payson

*Staff Present:*

Ed Tanner

*The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morettini at 5:30 pm.*

1. Minutes: Motion to approve July minutes as amended by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Morettini. Vote: 7-0.
2. Tree Warden: Introductions and discussion with Steve Saracino, new Tree Warden, regarding his background and experience and working together to improve process / move projects forward in Bristol.
3. Tree Inventory Project: Mr. Fisher provided update on the Tree Inventory project. RWU students have begun inventorying trees and progress is viewable on rhodytrees.org. During next BCC meeting (Oct. 3), Tee Jay Boudreau, RIDEM, and Steven White, RWU, and students will be discussing project.
4. Perry Farm: RWU Service Day at Perry Farm on August 29<sup>th</sup> was a success. BCC members (Morettini, Payson, Maciel, and Fisher) along with Mr. Tanner assisted two dozen incoming students in trail clearing (focused on new acquisition/connection from Metacom Ave). Report enclosed. Continued discussion on opening event and increasing publicity efforts to get public to use this open space. Ideas included Explore Bristol brochure and website and concept of Bristol Physical Fitness Trail. There are approximately one mile of trails within Perry / Tavares Farm. Ms. Green was tapped to create a trail map for the property. Mr. Morettini plans to conduct trail blazing.
5. Open Space Applications: Mr. Tanner said there are no new open space applications.
6. Announcements: Mr. Payson announced RWU President will be giving a free talk at Library (confirm location) on September 22<sup>nd</sup> about trees, insects, Zika, etc. Mr. Payson also announced upcoming Land Trust Days. Mr. Tanner said the Town was offered free trees. Locations were selected by Recreation Department and will be planted on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> by RWU students as part of a class.

*Motion to adjourn Mr. Payson, seconded by Mr. Fisher at 6:54pm.*

*Respectfully Submitted:*

Alison Ring

## Roger Williams University Service Day at Perry Farm, 2016

*Maciel*

On Monday, August 29, at 9 in the morning, 3 members of the BCC (Morettini, Payson, and Fisher) joined Ed Tanner from the Town to welcome over 2 dozen incoming RWU freshmen and their fellow (Senior) mentors at the Metacom Ave entrance to the "Perry Farm" open space property. The Freshmen were participating in the annual "Service Day" arranged every year for all members of the class.

This year, we put them to work clearing brand new paths, widening and maintaining existing ones, clearing our new Parking Lot, and opening a view from Metacom into the lot.

Specifically, we:

- Opened 3' wide "gate" through a stone wall allowing us to connect the parking lot to our new trail
- Created a new 5' wide path from the stone wall to the nub of the path coming off the Nat Grid ROW (to a wall at the other end). This required limb cutting and log cutting and clearing, in addition to the usual lopping and snipping. This new path is about 1/4 of a mile long (according to my pocket GIS app), which makes it about the same length as the existing East/West trail.
  - The Loop Trail is around 1/3 of a mile. Add in the "connector" and bits along the ROW, and we can pretty safely say we now have almost a mile of trails through the woods! Pretty cool, considering how little was there just 4 or so years ago.
- Cleared the Parking Lot, and opened it up.
- Cleared a 20' wide "view" from the parking lot to Metacom (GREAT place for a sign!!)
- Picked up a couple bags of miscellaneous trash from various trails.
- Re-widened/cleaned up the easternmost section of the East/West Trail (from the Meadow East).

Almost as importantly – we cemented an expanding relationship with RWU. Not clear that all of the kids enjoyed it, but several mentioned that they did - and most dug in to the work. More than that said they'd come back to bring their friends through the woods - so that is ALL good.

Tony Morettini

Chair, BCC