

**RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes November 12, 2024**

**Town Center Meeting Room, 203 Bridge St., 7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Dan Schmidt, Kit Emery, Sam Pratt, Judy Rosovsky, Bob Low, Jeanette Malone, Ibit Wright

**Public:** Lou Borie, Susannah Zeveloff, Bob Galvin

**Public Comments**

None

**Minutes taker**

Kit Emery

**Additions / Amendments to Agenda**

- Discussion of past communication: RAFT – RCC to consider membership; to discuss below
- New member to consider: Susannah Zeveloff
- Bob Galvin interested in becoming a non-voting member
- CRF criteria: dealing with needs of individual landowners; consider if there is a wider / general benefit, Dan citing VYCC experience; steams, beaver dams / baffles as a general benefit; Lily Pond Circle and recent flood; need for CRF purposes / criteria / availability PR – e.g. FPF
- UVM Student Climate study for Richmond

**Previous Minutes:**

Approved as amended

**Updates**

- Farmer's market table: Bob G. Jeanette, Sam: went extremely well, lots of interest in amphibians, importance of hands-on opportunities; education components.
- ACFC Update – Sam: There is to be a rotating chair, 3-month rotations; role of RCC in Management Plan (MP) discussed – ACFC wants RCC involvement – RCC would welcome ACFC request to do so; Jimmy Cochran and Sam Pratt unanimously approved for recommendation to Selectboard; Ian Stokes to take stab at MP revisions before going to RFP – 45-day timeline
- Trails update: Lou Borie summarized situation; see October RCC Minutes; situation in limbo; water redirected again; will need to keep tabs, including on State
- BioFinder: Renewed publicity; importance of prework – tutorial, story map; need to clarify if workshop needs to be warned; Bob L. cited land use layers available
- Old Jerico Road situation: report on meeting – Josh Arnason, Bob Low, Judy – encouraging discussion ongoing with FEMA contact (Tim); may be able to go beyond simple restoration based on pre-existing recreational trail; cost to Town with FEMA and State awards will be minimal; Additional \$\$\$ may be available; second meeting

with Josh scheduled; FEMA award covers both trail and bridge; issue – which comes first - general consensus that trail should be first if need to divide (what use is bridge without a trail); issue of likely repeat if washout / damage in future flood events, should anything be done.

### **CCRPC best Practices**

- Sam discussed pre-distributed CCRPC Best Practices policy (posted); need to understand where Richmond is at re Zoning in terms of building locations / envelopes and related - discuss with Planning Commission

### **Matter Arising**

- Discussion of RCC involvement with RAFT through Susannah; generally agreed
- RCCC membership for Susannah Zeveloff discussed: unanimous in favor
- UVM student Climate study for Richmond: Bob L. described Underhill study under Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux, will follow up at next RCC meeting
- Town Plan and Zoning: how should RCC be involved; Ask Planning Commission to send Zoning changes / updates to RCC.
- Action items
  - Get up to speed on river assessment / Town RFP
  - Discussion of Open Space Protection Plan
  - Pursue Native American climate solutions
  - UVM student climate study for Richmond
  - Recommend to SB: Sussanah for RCC membership
  - Ask Josh about nonvoting membership for Bob G.
  - Get Planning Commission to send RCC Zoning changes, especially with regard to CCRPOC best practices

Adjourn 9:45