

RICHMOND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes December 12, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Town Center Meeting Room, 203 Bridge St.

RCC members present: Daniel Schmidt, Kit Emery, Max Krieger, Jeanette Malone, Judy Rosovsky, (Ibit) Elizabeth Wright , Bob Low, Bob Galvin

Members of the public: Ian Stokes, Lisa Miller (Richmond Selectboard), Brad Elliott (ACFC Member) ,Wright Preston

7:30 p.m. **Public introductions and Comments:** None

7:35 **Appoint minutes taker and approve/amend November minutes:** Kit Emery, No amendments to November minutes

7:45 **Additions, amendments to agenda:** None

7:50 **Wright Preston application for ACFC Committee - At Large Seat**

The committee discussed Wright's application and qualifications (All committee members were in favor of Wrights candidacy to this position)

Wright Preston commented about his qualifications and his interests concerning the power company and his focus to help lessen the impacts it could have on the forest. (see his application to the committee).

Judy made a motion to the floor to support Wright's candidacy to the ACFC Committee – At Large Seat

Max made a motion and Jeanette seconded the motion.

8:00 **Richmond Save Our Salamanders Application – Revised version requires vote:** Committee voted to resubmit our application to allow the 3rd signage – All agreed

8:10 **Discussion of Conservation Reserve Town Funding:**

A discussion regarding the value of maintaining the CRF's Funding and Renewal Methods (see supporting documents)

Judy: Its more democratic to have a town vote so more people can engage with the decision

Bob L: Circulated the Richmond Town Land Trust letter for everyone to read

Brad: Read letter and gave a background regarding the inception of the CRF

Bob L: Led discussion regarding why the fund costs town tax payers and how funding decisions are made

Committee: Discussion on what kinds of new projects could we propose

Max: Supports raising more funds for the Reserve Fund and to lump it in with the town budget

Bob L: Recommends Australian Ballot or Line item. Reminded everyone this is going to come up before the Selectboard on Monday the 18th

A suggestion came up for an alternative option for CRF would be a "Cap"

Ibit: Why shake things up if its already working

Max: 2 types of Caps ??

Dan S: In regards to CRF projects, cost of contractors have gone up and with the current environmental crises if we have more money in the CRF we can support and build resiliency

8:45 Conservation Commission renewal material review:

Bob L handed out the CRF Project List (See supporting documents)

9:00 **Matters arising:** Max announced he was stepping down from the RCC effective immediately. We will surely miss him and all the work he has done for the RCC

Bob L mentioned we should look for someone who can fill the ACFC position to represent the Trails Committee

9:05 **Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn was made and seconded