Cranston Conservation Commission **Monthly Meeting Minutes**

Cranston City Hall
869 Park Ave.
Cranston, RI 02910

Date of Meeting: **27 November 2012**

Call to Order: 6:39pm *attending:* S. Pilz, L. Harrington, G. Parrillo
absent: M. Jerzyk, M. Hengen, B. Fountaine and R. DeGrandpre

Approval of Minutes: Mtg. of 23 Oct. 2012 approved; motion by G. Parrillo, seconded by L. Harrington

Reports:
1. Fiscal Year July 1 to June 30, 2013 remains at $2,400.00 balance.

Correspondence:
1. None

Old Business:
1. Member L. Harrington informed that she read a recent letter by Mayor Allan appointing new member Bridgette Graziano. No correspondence from the Mayor regarding appointments has been received. Chair Pilz will notify Ms. Graziano of the next scheduled meeting.
2. Chair Pilz has contacted Ken Pastore to request that the Commission meeting dates, agenda, and minutes be posted on the City website. K. Pastore was asked to accommodate a link to this info to the Secretary of State website.
3. Member M. Hengen was absent, thus no funding source(s) report.

New Business:
1. A brief discussion about the City Chapter 2.52.030 unanimously confirmed that new member appointments shall be appointed for three-year terms. Members B. Fountaine and M. Jerzyk need to confirm their term dates.
2. Development Plan Review (DPR) meeting of November 7 was not attended by Chair Pilz (due to work conflict);
   a. 1102 Cranston St., Development Plan Review for proposed Taco Bell Drive Thru Restaurant
      Plans were reviewed by Chair Pilz and a comment letter was sent to Peter Lapolla. Unfortunately the letter arrived after the November 7th meeting and per P. Lapolla the Commission's comment could not be considered. Subsequent Planning and Zoning meetings may offer opportunity for Commission comments.
   b. 2050 Plainfield Pike, Pre-Application for proposed DSD Enterprises, LLC storage area expansion.
      Emailed plan (sheet 3 of 3) and letter to P. Lapolla (Nov.1, 2012) were reviewed by S. Pilz. The expansion occurs within a wooded wetland and 100 ft. riverbank wetland; includes vegetation clearing & filling; and does not provide for a 5 ft. perimeter buffer. The Commission will have an opportunity to comment to the RI DEM within their 45 day public notice period. No comments were sent to P. Lapolla.
3. Arbor Day April 26, 2013 potential tree planting project to be kept in discussion.
4. Member G. Parrillo presented a Nov 22nd Cranston Herald news article regarding the City's planning study project of Knightsville. A 2008 KeepSpace grant awarded to the City will focus on Knightsville. The Comprehensive Plan identifies Pawtuxet Village, Rolfe Square, and Knightsville as commercial business districts with potential for growth. It's an infrastructure improvement focus that is aimed to stimulate existing businesses. While the study mainly involves the Itri Square of Park Ave. and Cranston St. the City hopes to establish a redevelopment model that could be applied to the other commercial business districts. The City will host an open workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5th from 7 to 9 pm at the Sprague Mansion.
5. Councilman Steven Stycos is expected to submit a written request seeking funding for City tree planting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by G. Parrillo, seconded by member L. Harrington at 7:57pm
Next Meeting: 18 December 2012 @ 6:30 pm