

COMMON FENCE POINT PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE (CFPPC)

Minutes – January 10, 2024

PURPOSE: Discuss the issues, goals and purposes, along with the wonderful things which have happened, and are to come.

CALL TO ORDER: Nicole Gotovich 6:35pm

ATTENDEES:	Nicole Gotovich	Paula Connolly	Tom Charbonneau	Ray Perry
	Laura Hosley	Marquerite Studer		
ZOOM:	Jim Forgerty	Barbara Jones	Brad ?	Neal Hingorany

BUSINESS:

- Motion to approve December 2023. Approved. The motion was seconded. Minutes approved.

CFPIA: Jim Fogerty

- Every other Thursday at the CFP VFW, Music @ the Point is having open mic nights which are open to the public.
- Ashley Murphy is CFPIA's new social media engagement/presents online to "get the word out" on all the great activities that are happening in the neighborhood.
- Saturday December 13th 2:30 - 4:30 PM is Winter Wonderland Story-time with crafts, snacks, and entertainment hosted by Lee Silva.
- CFP Winterball is Saturday February 10th. This is free for members and there will be a cash bar with hors d'oeuvres.
- The CFPIA meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.

SEPAC: Nicole Gotovich

- Chuck Miksis is the point person while Jeff is away but could not make it tonight.
- Chuck is hoping to meet with DPW about dredging Taylor's Point Marsh in January to see where they are at due to some residents helping to clear out the mouth of the saltmarsh.

NEWSLETTER: Nicole Gotovich

- Nancy Arruda-Nary could not make it for tonight's meeting.
- Nancy is scheduled to meet with Alex Pouliot and her team at URI on January 18th to do a draft layout hoping to have this quarterly
- Nicole is requesting to have access to the CFP Preparedness webpage so she can update it and/or meet with Conley.

FORUMS: Nicole Gotovich

- On December 18, 2023, Nicole invited the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation to come and talk about recycling along with the landfill in Johnston RI. This forum was very informative. It was Live Streamed and recorded;
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NVvBJLxWU4z7siVUDrBjiOJFM85YcZNv/view?usp=drivesdk>
- At the next CFPPC meeting, Wednesday February 7th at 6:30, Beacon Solar Construction out of Swansea, MA is coming to talk to us about the cost of making the community hall a warming/cooling center while maintaining electricity off-the-grid if we lose power. They have worked with nonprofits before and their sales manager is from Portsmouth RI, Mike Goulart.
- Tesla said that they would not help with making the building solar but possibly with vehicle charging stations because our building is too small to be considered commercial.
- Nicole was at Tremblay's in Island Park January 1st for 3 hours after the Polar Plunge with a setup for CFP Preparedness Awareness. She feels that it was not very successful due to only talking to about five people the whole time there because of the festivities.
- For March meeting we are trying to see if Pam Rubinoff can talk about My Coast and sea level tools to CFP, the Hummocks, and Island Park.

GRANTS: Tom Charbonneau

- Tom is working with Barbara Jones and they attended a grant webinar. During this webinar they found out that most grants require a 50% match, but the RI infrastructure Bank covers 80%, which means we would only need 20% to fund projects.
- Barbara and Tom are scheduled to meet with three engineers in order to get estimates and suggestions to address stormwater runoff at the CFP pond. After meeting with these engineers, Barbara and Tom should know what is needed to be done next
- Paige Myatt from the RI Infrastructure Bank is working with all towns on Aquidneck Island and has agreed to help with the grant process for CFP.
- CFPPC agreed that there needs to be a common ground with Island Park in order to have greater access to grant money if we work together. For example: stormwater runoff, coastal issues, and the seawall.
- Tom is looking at the Fishing and Wildlife grants because these are state grants which help with starting a plan before executing the main plan/goal.

PORTSMOUTH Emergency Management Agency (EMA): Ray Perry

- Ray would like to see Island Park, The Hummocks, and trailer parks to have really good preparedness plans. He is trying to find out what is important to each neighborhood. He believes that Island Park should focus on mitigation or being more resilient and prepared before disasters, as well as evacuations due to the needs of the residents in this neighborhood.
- He had talked to John Vit about Island Park getting organized to talk about preparedness but John might be too busy for this. We are now thinking of ways to help them to get organized.
- Ray also mentioned to always document the highest water line mark for insurance purposes during flooding of your house because several people who attended had water damage from these last storms.
- The town of Portsmouth uses Code Red, an emergency tool to inform the public of disasters or emergencies. Ray needs to see why the town hasn't been using it lately due to any notifications for inclement weather.
<https://www.portsmouthri.gov/423/CodeRED-Enrollment>
- RI Energy has their own emergency system for power outages.
<https://www.rienergy.com/RI-Home/Outage-Central/Outage-Alerts>

RESILIENCE BUILDING:

- Pam Rubinoff and Jen West were unable to attend this meeting.

OTHER:

- Nicole Gotovich talked to Brian Woodhead from DPW and Lieutenant Patrick O'Neil from the Portsmouth Police about adding a digital speed sign going down Anthony Rd on the golf course side when leaving Common Fence Point. Lieutenant O'Neal said that once the town had funding they could put one there to help reduce speed going down the hill.
- The two new people who came to the meeting from Island Park said that the water was way up their street or in their basement. They had wished there was Code Red alert to warn them of the overnight storm on January 9th through January 10th.

AJOURNED: 7:38pm

Next Meeting:

March 6, 2024 @ 6:30 PM at 933 Anthony Rd, Portsmouth, RI at the Arts Community Wellness Center