

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM
OOB TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL

DRAFT

Meeting Called to Order at 7:15 pm

Member Roll Call: John Bird - Chair, Karen Brozek, and Mark Koenigs Absence: Kimbark Smith and Pat Holland, excused.

Public attendee: Mike Halle

Secretary Note: Public is welcome to attend and participate in the Conservation Commission meetings at the pleasure of the Chair. People interested in volunteering to plan, fund raise, and construct recreational trails in OOB are encouraged to contact the Chair John Bird or Mark Koenigs. New members are needed and would be welcomed.

ITEM 1. Minutes

August 14, 2013 meeting minutes were re-tabled.

Reviewed meeting minute for September 9, 2013. Minutes were approved with minor corrections; 3-0.

ITEM 2. DEP Goosefare Closure Letter

Chair Bird provided background information regarding the Goosefare Brook outlet closure. A sand bar blocked the Goosefare outlet during a recent storm and the Goosefare lower drainage flooded with fresh water. Town Manager acted positively. OOB and DEP held a meeting to look at the situation. The sand bar was interfering with the marsh environment from receiving salt water. DEP permit by rule allows for opening the outlet to restore the tidal flow into the marsh area. DEP requested that the OOB Conservation Commission submit a letter to Mary Beth Richardson, ME DEP, stating we agree. Chair Bird read the OOB Conservation Commission letter. Mr. Koenigs moved that we officialy approve the letter as written. Ms. Brozek seconded. Vote was 3 – 0.

ITEM 3. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Memorial Park Subcommittee met on 10/7/13 at the High School conference room. No one in attendance was present to provide a subcommittee update.

B. Eastern Trail Connection Design and Permitting Steps

On 9/25/13 Trails subcommittee, Ginger McMullin, Jim Bucar, and I, along with Chair Bird met with Bill Robertson, DPW Director, at his DPW office. We agreed to reject the one proposal that was received from BH2M for the OOB to ET Connector Trail design services. The proposal exceeded our budget. We decided to request quotes for surveying services from a minimum of three qualified surveying firms which would include BH2M. The request for survey services to cover three areas of the trail that require existing condition survey and elevation benchmarks for engineering layout and design work. Bill Robertson and Mr. Koenigs will work together on the trail design.

C. "Kiosk" Management and content

Ginger McMullin provided a map entitled "Welcome to Blueberry Plains". Chair Bird read the firearm ordinance and we agreed that it should be added to the Blueberry Plains kiosk display.

Discussed the layout of the content. Agreed the map would be below and the 8 ½"x11" would be displayed above the map. Moisture under the plexi glass was noted and a possible solution is to drill a few vent holes in the wood frame.

ITEM 4. Wood Lot Tour – Milliken Mills Wood

Work shop was held last week with Tin Smith, Wells Reserve, Wells, ME. The workshop group toured the OOB owned property named Milliken Mills Wood off of Portland Ave. The property has good topography. The piece of property was deeded to the Town in 1998 by Janice Milliken Andrews. Chair Bird read the deed conditions for the use and up keep of the property.

A kiosk with a map and memorial names of Mrs. Andrews' parents was discussed. Chair Bird presented potential grants we could apply for to fund improvement project for the property; Americorp or the Maine Forestry Dept.'s Community Forestry grant Project Canopy. October 17 there is a seminar on writing grants which is a perquisite for apply for a Canopy grant. Contact name is Jan Ames Santerre.

ITEM 5. Goosefare Brook Pollution

Chair Bird gave a brief update. The current pollution is affected by flooding caused by the sand bar. The latest reading was 1224 cnts/100 ml at W. Grand & Casco. Town is investigating. At the Town Manager's direction, DPW is checking the sewer connections on Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment. DPW phone number is 207-934-2250 to schedule an inspection.

ITEM 6. Education (Certified Wildlife Habitat signs and certificates, Activities Book, Facebook, etc.)

Buy some more signs for certified habitat areas. Motion made to purchase 2 new signs by Ms. Brozek and seconded by Mr. Koenigs. Vote 3-0.

ITEM 7. Other Business

Plan to hold a Workshop on 11/6/13 for Canopy Grant application brainstorming.

Next Conservation Commission meeting scheduled for 11/12/13 due to Veteran's Day.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Mark Koenigs

Mark Koenigs, Secretary
(Submitted on 11/12/13)