

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes, May 20, 2009

Members Attending: Andrea Berlin, chair, Linda Newell, Linda Jenkins, John Bird, Mark Koenigs, Ginger McMullin

Minutes of the April 29, 2009 meeting were reviewed. A correction was made to the amount of space that an anemometer tower would need should it be placed at the ballpark. To accommodate guy wires, 80 feet around the pole would be needed (not 125 feet as stated). The minutes were approved with this correction.

Dana Furtado informed the commission of his desire to use a portable, inflatable screen and digital projector to show movies at the ballpark property, similar to a drive-in. The screen would be 100' x 45', and the desire is to do this on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, probably May - October. Mr. Furtado understands that this would have to go through a town planning / approval / safety review process, and was presenting this to the commission for feedback. 25% of the net profit from this would go back to the Ballpark subcommittee. Activities would all be in the existing parking lot. It was suggested that Mike Nugent, Gary Lamb and Dana Furtado meet to review what existing town ordinances would allow. Gary Lamb mentioned that some utility info and structural plans for the ballpark have been located.

The plovers that were nesting in Ocean Park have abandoned their nest, and hopefully will be trying again to establish one. The beach management agreement between the town and the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife was discussed. It is still pending. It looks like it won't have to be signed this year. All agreed that dogs are an issue for the plovers. Beach cleaning as done by OOB now is good -- DPW makes an effort to stay away from the birds. John Bird also read comments from a few people he has heard from on the issue.

A federal grant may be applied for to help with ballpark improvements from the Maine Department of Conservation's Land & Water Conservation Fund. A preliminary request needs to be in by June 23 to request a site walk.

Jean LeClerc reported on a visit to Auburn's anemometer tower site. It is on a 4' x 4' platform, and the tower was put up in one afternoon in 10' sections. The anemometer is hooked to a datalogger. After a few weeks of operation, everything is running smoothly.

OOB needs to pick a site for any proposed anemometer. It will take a few months to change the zoning ordinance to allow for the structure's height. It will need to go to the planning board 3 weeks before their meeting. It was agreed that the July planning board meeting would be a good target.

During good and welfare a suggestion was brought forth to consider building a "petanque" court in Veteran's Memorial Park. Andrea agreed to meet with those interested.

minutes approved 6-17-09
Taken by Ginger McMullin
