

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 at 7:30 PM
OOB POLICE STATION COMMUNITY ROOM

Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 pm

Member Roll Call: John Bird - Chair, Kimbark Smith, and Mark Koenigs; Absent: Karen Brozek, Patricia Holland (excused).

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 Bird or Mark Koenigs. New members are needed and would be welcomed.

ITEM 1. Minutes

January 14, 2013 meeting minutes approved by 3-0 vote.

February 18, 2013 meeting minutes, Chair Bird reviewed and provided written corrections and edits. Mr. Koenigs moved to approve as amended. February minutes approved by 3-0 vote.

February 22, 2013 workshop minutes, Mr. Smith moved to accept as amended and Mr. Koenigs seconded. February workshop minutes approved by 3-0.

ITEM 2. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Chair Bird gave an update on the RFP. Action needs to be taken soon before the summer season begins. Chair Bird to see if he can get someone, either the DPW Director, or the Town Council Chair to take positive action to insure the Park annual maintenance RFP is used or the Town's direct resources are used to maintain the Park appropriately this coming spring and summer.

B. Eastern Trail Connection

Mr. Koenigs and Mr. Smith are to mark the locations of the existing trails on the OOB map. Conservation Commission will pass the information to the Town Planner to have the Town GIS consultant add a layer to the Town's web GIS map and have it added to the Town website access for all to view. Mr. Smith will add Ocean Park Assoc. trails, and Saco Bay trails, and Mr. Koenigs will add the Eastern trail and the proposed Connector Trail, Blueberry Plains and others that he may know.

C. Wetlands Survey

Chair Bird gave an update on his conversation with our consultant. He has requested the consultant submit an update report by the end of April; a preliminary report on work done to that date. The final report will include a GIS data file for Town's records and use.

ITEM 3. Comprehensive Plan schedule update and discussion

Chair Bird attended the last Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting. Maine Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) coordinator, LaMarr Clannon gave a presentation on Links between land use and water quality, traditional methods for treating stormwater, LID (what it is, how it works, cost comparisons, examples in Maine), Ordinances in Maine to protect water, stormwater utilities to pay for stormwater projects and non-point source pollution and covered a new product, porous pavement, which can be used in development to lower stormwater surface water run-off. Chair Bird to check on availability of speaker for future presentation to Conservation Commission.

ITEM 4. Preliminary FEMA map critique

Mr. Smith opined the Federal Emergency Management agency (FEMA), is trying to reduce exposure for payouts. Chair Bird stated that Jim Butler, OOB Code Enforcement Officer, sent out a Town letter regarding maps to FEMA. Action Item – Chair Bird to get a copy of the letter for information.

ITEM 5. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations

Chair Bird reviewed the issue and showed posters from the state that we plan to post in infected areas. Cost for producing and laminating the posters is \$2.60/each. Need to locate the hemlock trees in OOB. Chair Bird authorized to spend NTE \$55 for laminated signs for posting.

ITEM 6. Goosefare pollution

Maine Healthy Beaches (MHB) – has hired a new employee. They are a grant agency. Funding source is EPA grants.

Mr. Smith wants to know where our report on our pollution issue is. There seems to be no sense of urgency on the part those who have taken the initial responsibility (MHB) or the town departments. He wanted to know if we know anyone at the EPA. Chair Bird to talk with Ginger McMullin to see if she knows anyone in the Federal or State agencies.

Keri Kaczor, Maine Healthy Beaches manager – New person at MHB is Meagan Sims. She has replaced Adam St. Gelais and will assist in coordinating the program. Chair Bird to send Mr. Smith email addresses and phone numbers for Jim Butler, OOB CEO, and Chris White, OOB Wastewater Superintendent. In Saco, Andrea Blanchette in Engineering, Bob Hamblen, Saco City Planner and John Sherman in Saco Parks and Rec are involved with the Bear Brook & Goosefare pollution problem. We agreed we need to create some pressure to get action before summer is here. Follow the money and ask for results.

ITEM 7. "Check-in" and Discussion of plans for upcoming year

Chair Bird reviewed the budget items and we decided on budget amounts based on past spending and anticipated requirements and needs for FY '14.

Chair Bird will finish the FY '14 budget presentation paper and provide it to the Town Finance Director.

ITEM 8. Other Business

No other business.

Next monthly meeting - April 8, 2013 Tentative – Time and Place to be determined

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm

Mark Koenigs, Secretary
(Approved on 4/9/13)