

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013 at 7:30 PM  
OOB TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL

Meeting Called to Order at 7:35 pm

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

Guest – Jim Bucar, Trail Subcommittee member

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

Mr. Smith moved to accept the May 14, 2013 meeting minutes and Mr. Koenigs seconded. Meeting minutes were approved; 3-0 vote.

ITEM 2. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Chair Bird provided a summary update for the Park subcommittee. A subcommittee meeting was held in early June. Illumination Night went well. A contract was issued to Design Lines for park maintenance. The gardener was not hired by DPW or Town. DPW will come in and help do maintenance as needed. Library expansion project when started will require removing shrubs and replanting somewhere in the park.

The Heath Street property developer (old IGA building) has donated \$5,000 to the Park, paid approximately \$4,000 in legal fees for the lease agreement and deed documentation. Chair Bird raised the issue regarding the \$50,000 of improvements to Memorial Park along the common property line/easement. Chair Bird has also raised the issue with the Town Council recently, now that the existing pine trees have been cut down by the developer.

B. Eastern Trail Connection

Mr. Koenigs reported on the subcommittee and Conservation Commission's OOB to ET Connector trail clean-up event held on May 18, 2013. Six volunteers spent 3 hours on Saturday along with two DPW workers and equipment to clean up the School Street Extension section of the trail. A total of two – 1 Ton truckloads of rubbish and trash were removed.

Trail subcommittee meeting was held on 5/29/13. We reviewed the cost estimate worksheet, discussed our first steps to be taken, discussed the budget status and fundraising ideas, and reviewed the proposed project schedule for 2013.

We discussed the draft PACTS regional signage document shared by the Town Planner. Jim Bucar provided his comments as a Trail subcommittee member regarding which bike routes should be included in the regional signage and mapping. There were a few correction comments suggested. Chair Bird to forward the Conservation Commissions comments on the draft document back to the Town Planner to provide feedback to the engineering company working on the project.

### ITEM 3. Goosefare Pollution Update

Chair Bird gave an update and reviewed the Town's action plan. Volunteers are needed to monitor the beach water. Contact Meagan Sims (207) 791-8112 or email to [Meagan.sims@maine.edu](mailto:Meagan.sims@maine.edu). DPW will determine if areas have sanitary sewer lines installed and to conduct dye testing house by house. Chris White, WWTF Superintendent, is in charge of monitoring water quality and posting signs as required when water quality presents a health risk.

### ITEM 4. Maine Beaches Conference

Chair Bird asked if anyone was interested in registering for the Maine Beaches Conference to be held on July 12<sup>th</sup> in South Portland. It covers pollution testing and erosion control. The fee is \$35/person. Mr. Smith will attend. Mr. Koenigs made a motion to authorize expenditure to send Mr. Smith to the conference. Mr. Bird seconded. Vote 3-0.

### ITEM 5. Volunteers – Rev 3 and Beach Monitoring

Chair Bird noted that Ms. Brozek has submitted the OOB Conservation Commission's name to Rev3 and established a sign-up for volunteering for the Rev3 event on the weekend of August 23-25. Rev3 needs volunteers and they donate \$15 per person per charity organization that volunteers as a group to fill a needed volunteer position. The OOB Conservation Commission is seeking volunteers for a Running Aid Station on the Eastern Trail at Mile 5 & 7 of the half triathlon race.

No update on Beach Monitoring.

### ITEM 6. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

#### A. Strategy

Chair Bird gave an update on the infestation of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. There is not much of an infestation in the Ocean Park Grove. There are Adelgid in the area of W. Tioga and W. Casco neighborhoods. The Adelgid do have vulnerability; they need their

host tree to survive. So if you have a valued ornamental tree you can trim off the branches that are infested, or use a strong stream of water to wash them off the tree branches, ie. separate them from the trees.

#### B. Infestation Posters

The Conservation Commission has made posters, and posted them in Town Hall and at the Post Offices for public's information.

#### ITEM 7. Comprehensive Plan Discussion

Chair Bird provided an update and handouts from the Comprehensive Plan committee's 6/10/13 meeting. The Comprehensive Plan committee has included the following in their draft Natural Resources strategies: 1) Septic Systems – monitoring, 2) Trails – development, and 3) Grant Money for Town Prop. Deer Wintering Area.

#### ITEM 8. FEMA Update

Chair Bird presented an update. Letter send back to FEMA is highly technical. Ransom Consulting, Mr. Gerber, reported on 5/22 that FEMA was delaying release of the Preliminary maps. The FEMA work maps are located down stairs in the Town Hall in the Planning Department Office. The preliminary maps may not be coming out until next fall.

#### ITEM 9. Education & Signage

Chair Bird presented the certified Wildlife Habitat signage and explained the three habits were for the Town owned properties, 1) Blueberry Plains, 2) the dog kennel/park property on Portland Ave., and 3) Portland Ave. property (51 acres donated by Janice Milliken Andrews).

Motion made by Mr. Koenigs and seconded by Mr. Smith to buy the materials for one kiosk. Vote as 3-0. Chair Bird to talk to Town Treasurer (Finance Director) to use the Home Depot account and follow town purchasing procedures.

Chair Bird stated there was no progress on printing the activity books.

#### ITEM 10. "Check-in" and Discussion of plans for upcoming year

Chair Bird has been asked by the Town Council for justification for the cost estimate for profession engineering services for the OOB to ET Connector Trail FY' 14 budget. The current budget request includes additional grounds maintenance funds for the Forrester to survey Town owned properties; the two on Portland Avenue and the two on Ross Road, also known as the Blueberry Plains or Great Plains.

ITEM 11. Other Business

No other business.

Next monthly meeting – July 8, 2013 at 7:00 pm at OOB Town Hall, Town Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

*Mark Koenigs*

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Mark Koenigs, Secretary  
(Approved on 7/8/13)