

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

Meeting Called to Order at 7:10 pm

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

Public attendee: Jerome Begert

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 tabled.

The July meeting minutes were approved with minor corrections; 3-0.

ITEM 2. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Chair Bird provided an update regarding the meeting between Bill Robertson, DPW Director, and the developer of the old IGA property at Heath Street, regarding the Memorial Park easement and Family Dollar development drainage issues. More haybales have been installed to slowdown stormwater and prevent erosion. The developer shall make additional improvements to the drainage along the top of the easement slope along the edge of the new pavement.

Subcommittee is developing signs for the canine memorial. Repairs have been made to the tennis courts. The next Memorial Park Subcommittee meeting may be 10/10/13.

B. Eastern Trail Connection Design and Permitting Steps

Proposals are due this week for the Trail Engineering Design RFP. Mr. Smith made a motion to put Mr. Koenigs in charge and for him to coordinate the review of the proposals with Mr. Robertson, DPW Director. It was agreed that Mr. Koenigs would take the lead to coordinate the review of the proposals received.

### C. "Kiosk" Management and content

The first kiosk has been built and installed at Blueberry Plains. Thanks to Randy McMullin for use of his work shop and his donated time, Ginger McMullin opening her home to the crew, and to OOB DPW's crew Tim, Tom and Bill. The Blueberry Plains kiosk sign requires design and painting to be complete. Content info discussed; map by Ms. McMullin, habitat sign, booklets, and notices regarding ordinances on hunting and shooting firearms on Town property.

### D. Wetland Inventory update

Chair Bird gave an update on the status of the consultants work on the wetland inventory. The wetland inventory documentation, the deliverable report, is 90% complete.

### ITEM 3. Goosefare Pollution update

Chair Bird gave an update on the status of Saco's grant application for studying the Goosefare Brook watershed pollution issues. The scope of the grant covers mostly costs for York County Soil Conservation to conduct meetings and gather some information. There is a small amount of grant funds for testing. The grant does allow of matching funds to be from in-kind services from the communities. Old Orchard Beach's pollution problem is localized in Ocean Park, it is worst after rain storm events and pollutes the Goosefare Brook and the ocean along the Beach .

After the most recent rain event on Labor Day weekend, the Enterococci readings were higher than readable scale count (above 10000 cnts/100 ml) and the OOB Wastewater Dept. posted the warning signs on the designated Maine Healthy Beaches signs near the Beach testing sites. Discussion on the Maine Healthy Beaches sampling and data posted on the internet. Enterococci bacteria is used to measure the health of the water as it can live in salt water and fresh water.

All were in agreement that the Town of Old Orchard Beach needs to do its own investigation to determine the sources of human fecal pollution and fix them.

### ITEM 4. Woodlot tour

Chair Bird and Mr. Smith attended a tour of the Wells Reserve with Tin Smith. Chair Bird gave a brief report on the tour. Discussed the Town owned Portland Ave. property that was donated by the Janice Milliken Andrews. It has previously been managed as a wooded property. Mr. Smith recommended that we invite Tin Smith to tour our woodlots and attend the first part of our October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Smith will contact Tin Smith to coordinate the tour and meeting.

### ITEM 5. Education (Certified Wildlife Habitat signs and certificates, Activities Book, Facebook, etc.)

Chair Bird made a presentation of the certified wildlife habitat certificates to the Town Council at their last meeting. The certificates for the three Town owned properties: 1) the

OOB Animal Shelter property on Portland Ave., 2) Milliken Mills Woods (Deeded name, aka Wood Lot) on Portland Ave., and 3) Blueberry Plains properties. The certificates are presented by the National Wildlife Federation.

Chair Bird mentioned there is bond money available for Deer Wintering Areas. We have a designated deer wintering habitat that is located on the Bailey's property and Milliken Mills Woods. State agency responsible for administering the bond money is still working on the details.

ITEM 6. Open Spaces for OOB's Future

Develop a plan for the Milliken Mill area to create open space. Either through donations to the Town of properties, or conservation easements.

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

Chair Bird reviewed Project Canopy – 2013 Grant workshops – Sept. 2013, covers grant writing, etc. December 2 – 5pm application is due. 50% cash/in kind matching grant funds Andrea Berlin and Chair Bird have previously attend the workshop and we would be eligible to apply. Mr. Smith will check out the application off the Project Canopy website.

ITEM 7. Other Business

Volunteers from REV3 – ConCom Fund Raiser \$15/shift. Thanks go out to Tom and Gail Domin for volunteering for OOB ConCom.

Next monthly meeting – October 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm at OOB Town Hall, Town Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

*Mark Koenigs*

---

Mark Koenigs, Secretary  
(Approved on 10/14/13)