

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBURARY 18, 2013 at 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL IN TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Meeting Called to Order at 7:10 pm

Member Roll Call: John Bird - Chair, Kimbark Smith, and Mark Koenigs; Absent: Patricia Holland

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.

ITEM 1. Minutes

Tabled acceptance of January 2013 meeting minutes. Minutes will have to be approved by John Bird and Pat Holland at our next monthly meeting. Mr. Bird and Ms. Holland were the only two remaining current members that attended the January 2013 meeting. The meeting minutes were taken and drafted by the previous Chair McMullin.

ITEM 2. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Chair Bird gave an update on the Seasonal Maintenance RFP status. Andrea Berlin is getting involved again with the Subcommittee. No report by subcommittee member.

B. Eastern Trail Connection

Mr. Koenigs gave a status update of the Connector Trail Subcommittee. There has been no meeting in the past two months by the subcommittee. No new information or developments to report.

C. Wetlands Survey

Chair Bird gave a brief explanation as to what the wetlands survey was and why it is being conducted. The Conservation Commission (Town of Old Orchard Beach) has hired NewEarth Ecological, LLC, to conduct a wetland survey of the entire Town to update the Town's existing (1989) survey. The information will be saved and shared with the community and developers through the new Comprehensive Plan that is being drafted this year. Chair Bird provided an 8 ½"x11" map highlighting square tracts of land on which the consultant has undertaken field survey work to date (approx.. 57 of 133 or 42%). Mr. Koenigs suggested that the Chair contact our consultant to let them know a preliminary

wetlands survey report is requested by the end of April for review at our May meeting. The final survey report is due by the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2013.

ITEM 3. Comprehensive Plan schedule update and discussion

Chair Bird stated that next Monday, March 4th at 7 pm the Comprehensive Plan Committee would have their next meeting. He encouraged us to attend as they would be covering Natural Resources Goal Policies and Strategies. Mr. Smith suggested the Ocean Park private trails be included in the Town of Old Orchard Beach comprehensive trail map. Chair Bird to look into having the OP trails added to the map.

ITEM 4. Preliminary FEMA map critique

The preliminary FEMA maps were not available for our meeting. They are in the possession of the Planning Department. Chair Bird reviewed FEMA's rollout schedule for the public comments in March, preliminary release of the maps in mid-May, January 2014 set as the release date of the new FEMA maps, and July 2014 shall be the effective day by Town ordinance adoption. The Town with other York County communities, is talking with Robert Gerber of Ransom Consultants to comment on the maps by March 1.

ITEM 5. Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations

Chair Bird presented a Maine Forest Service advisory flyer on the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, see attachment. The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has been found in Old Orchard Beach recently. They are very small mites that infest Hemlock trees. They are easily spread by animals, wind and people. They spread in the spring and summer months.

Conservation Commission members agreed to take the initiative to post the Maine Forest Service signs in the March timeframe in and around the affected areas within the Town limits.

ITEM 6. Goosefare pollution

Chair Bird updated the public on human fecal pollution (e.coli) problem in the Goosefare Brook watershed. There are some hot spots that have been identified in OOB (Ross Rd., and New Salt) and some in Ocean Park (Winona). Maine Healthy Beaches has taken the initiative to be the lead State agency to investigate and report on the problem. They should be commended for their efforts. There was to be a meeting with all agencies in December which was to be chaired by Maine Health Beaches, but which unfortunately did not happen. They (Keri Kaczor@ maine.edu) are going to issue a final report soon. The issue needs to be addressed and closed out by Code Enforcement in each community.

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

Reviewed budget vs spending for FY '13. Chair Bird to meet with the Finance Director to confirm our current spending and remaining balance.

Chair Bird reviewed our FY '14 budget planning process and indicated that we need to be prepared next meeting to finalize our preliminary budget request.

ITEM 8. Other Business

Mr. Smith raised a question on the status of the backflow valve in the catch basin on West Grand and Ancona. Chair Bird will follow-up with DPW department head. There was no further business.

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm to the call of the Chair.

Next monthly meeting - March 11, 2013 – 7:00 PM, OOB Town Hall

Mark Koenigs

Mark Koenigs, Secretary
(Approved on 3/11/13)

NOTICE

Invasive Insect Infestation

Hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) has been found in the area.
We need your help to slow the spread.



- 🌿 In **spring and summer**, HWA eggs and crawlers are present. You and your pets can move them to new areas.
- 🌿 Avoid contact with hemlock branches here!
- 🌿 **Remove HWA hitchhikers** before encountering hemlock elsewhere.
For example: Shower, change clothing, wash vehicle/equipment, brush/wash pets
- 🌿 If you see this insect in other areas, please contact the Maine Forest Service to report your find:



Maine Forest Service
forestinfo@maine.gov
(207) 287-2431

www.maineforestservice.gov/HemlockWoollyAdelgid.htm

Wool pulled apart to reveal eggs (right)

Approx. size of eggs and crawlers : ○

Average number of eggs per woolly mass: 100



Thanks to New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands for permission to modify.