

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013 at 7:00 PM
OOB POLICE STATION COMMUNITY ROOM

Meeting Called to Order at 7:08 pm

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

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

March 11, 2013 meeting minutes with edits and revisions by Mr. Bird were approved; 5-0 vote.

ITEM 2. Subcommittee updates

A. Veterans Memorial Park

Ms. Holland gave a summary of the past subcommittee meeting. Chair Robillard met with the DPW Director regarding the park maintenance budget. The DPW will be hiring a gardener this year. The dog park will be closed from April 22 to May 22 for maintenance and re-seeding grass areas. Mr. Bird suggested a press release and posting on the Town webpage and public access channel regarding the dog park closure. Discussed FY '14 budget planning. Maintenance check list needs to be completed. Vegetation at the Library needs to be saved (a relocation plan) prior to the excavation work for the Library building expansion exterior plumbing work.

B. Eastern Trail Connection

Mr. Koenigs reported that the next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for 4/17 at 7 pm at the DPW Office. Mr. Smith marked up map with Ocean Park trails using colored lines that match the trail markings. We discussed trail marking and using GPS to locate the trails for accurate placement of the trails in the OOB GIS mapping.

C. Wetlands Survey

Chair Bird gave an update on the status of the survey work by our wetlands consultant. The Consultant will provide an update at the end of the month. Mr. Koenigs asked that we be provided a draft report with at least the report format and outline for review by our June meeting. The contract or funding for the survey ends at end of the fiscal year; June 30th,

2013. One of our goals is to have the wetlands survey and report complete so that it can be used by the Comprehensive Planning committee and included as an appendix to the updated Comprehensive Plan 2013 in the fall of 2013.

ITEM 3. Comprehensive Plan discussion

Chair Bird updated us on the current status of the Comprehensive Plan committee's work on the Natural Resources/Environment section of the Comprehensive Plan draft goals, policies and strategies.

ITEM 4. Possible NEMO speaker

Chair Bird to schedule the NEMO speaker for one of our meetings. The meeting may be done jointly during a televised town meeting either Planning Board or Town Council to reach a broader public audience and town officials for education benefits.

Porous pavement was discussed. Suggestion made that Chair Bird speak with Planning Board Chair, Jeffrey Hinderliter, Town Planner, and possibly the Town Council Chair about having the NEMO speaker make a presentation for public education.

ITEM 5. Easements

Discussed Conservation Easement Registry – which has a \$30/yr. cost paid to the State of Maine each year. Kim-Bark Smith volunteered to inspect the easements. Kim McLaughlin, Town Clerk, explained where the \$30 is paid and what it buys the Town of Old Orchard Beach. The money is paid to the State Planning Office and it is mandatory, but without punishment if not paid. Chair Bird to investigate easement registry. Mr. Bird has already asked the planning office to provide him legal requirement.

ITEM 6. FEMA maps update

Chair Bird gave an update on the FEMA maps. OOB's Code Enforcement Officer sent a letter to FEMA. Chair Bird has not received a requested copy of the letter for Conservation Commissions information. Maps are at Town Hall for public review. Chair Bird to publicize the existence and purpose of the proposed FEMA maps.

ITEM 7. Education & Signage (Wooly Adelgid infestations poster, Kiosk Kionments, Activities Book, etc.)

Maine Conservation Conferences – Chair Bird asked for members interested in attending conferences for furthering our education. Mr. Smith expressed an interest in conferences related to education on marshes and beaches.

Ocean Park area in the grove and along the railroad tracks has confirms Wooly Adelgid as confirmed by testing by entomologist. A discussion of the Wooly Adelgid followed.

Signs and kiosks – Mr. Koenigs to ask his daughter about finishing the new sign for Blue Berry Plains. Mr. Smith will get a quote for a kiosk to be designed and built like the one in the Ocean Park grove.

Chair Bird presented a kids booklet for children's environment education – Est. cost of \$2.50/book. Chair Bird to get quote for printing a large volume of booklets; 500 or 1000 as the booklet info will not go out of date. Printing to include a re-printed by OOB Con Com acknowledgement with permission from original organization.

ITEM 8. Goosefare pollution update

Review of the status of the Goosefare pollution status by Chair Bird. There will be a meeting held on 4/25/13 at 12:45 to 2:00 pm at OOB Town Hall with Admin./WWTF Superintendent/DPW Director/Town Planner/Code Enforcement Officer. We discussed the means and methods, and time frame it may take to track down the point source or sources of the pollution in OOB. Time is of the essence as our summer 2013 season is fast approaching. Action needs to be taken by the Town of OOB to find the source(s) and then make repairs/clean-up.

ITEM 9. "Check-in" and Discussion of plans for upcoming year

Mr. Koenigs asked Chair Bird if the current budget request included funds for hiring a Forrester to evaluate the wooded Town owned properties. An estimated cost of such a survey was included in the minutes of our January, 2013 meeting minutes. The survey would be a good management tool for the Town, and may provide suggestions for moderate revenue to offset the survey costs and improve the health of our forested properties.

Ms. Brozek suggested the Conservation Commission have informational table at Town Functions or Events with a donation jar and provide educational handouts to the public.

ITEM 10. Other Business

No other business.

Next monthly meeting - May 13, 2013 Tentative – Time and Place to be determined

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Mark Koenigs

Mark Koenigs, Secretary
(Approved on 5/14)