

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012 at 7:00 PM
OOB HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Meeting Called to Order at 7:09 pm

Member Roll Call: Ginger McMullin, John Bird, Patricia Holland, and Mark Koenigs.

Absent: Linda Jenkins and Pierre Bouthiller

Guests: Helene Whitaker and Trish Driscoll

Note Public is welcome to attend and participate in the Conservation Commission meetings at the pleasure of the Chair. People interested in volunteering on developing and constructing recreational trails in OOB are encouraged to contact the Chair or Mark Koenigs.

ITEM 1. Approval of December Minutes

Tabled to allow for review by Members.

ITEM 2. OOB ET Connector: Progress & brochure with bicycle safety

Chair has an appointment on 1/19/12 with Bill Robertson regarding OOB connector trail to the Eastern Trail from downtown OOB. Chair mentioned that a MDOT trail grant application and issuance is a 2 year process. Contact is Dan Stuart, MDOT.

Trish Driscoll made a presentation to the Conservation Commission regarding bicycle safety brochures. She is working to promote bicycle safety in Old Orchard Beach through education of the youth/new riders, visitors/vacationers/campers, foreign student workers and general public riders. She is working with the Community Watch Committee, OOB Public Safety Department to draft an educational tri-fold brochure to be used with presentations to youth, bicycling events, and community events as a handout. The brochure is in the draft stages. Ms. Driscoll is seeking the Conservation Commissions support, involvement and financial contribution to assist in covering the printing cost of 5,000 copies. She is also interested in having the brochures translated to French for our French Canadian summer visitors. She had estimated printing costs of approximately \$769 for 5000 each or \$532 for 2000 each.

John Bird made a motion to support the bicycle safety brochures and Mr. Koenigs seconded. Trish and Helene W. to finish the brochure proof and come back to our next meeting on 2/13/12 to present it as a final draft and get our final financial commitment. Motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

We reviewed the draft letter to Town Council regarding Conservation Commission's position and support of recycling as part of the Beach cleaning contract. Trish Driscoll, a Recycling Committee member, informed us what she knew about the current RFP that was issued for bids by the Town DPW Director and Town Manager. It is a three contract with a 2 year extension optional. The recycling requirement is the fourth option in the RFP.

We made note that the Comprehensive Plan committee survey results as it pertains to the top environmental quality priority of all town resident respondents was "A Clean Beach". The second according to Ms. Driscoll was clean air quality.

We made edits to the draft letter. Chair motioned that we submit the letter to Town Council as edited, and Mr. Koenigs seconded. Vote was 4-0.

John Bird made a motion in the form of a goal for the Conservation Commission to complete the development of the ET Connector Trail by Spring of 2012. Ms. Holland seconded. Vote was 4-0.

We briefly mentioned and discussed the new Triathlon event that will be held in OOB this summer on August 26th, 2012. Mr. Koenigs will research the Triathlon course(s) and bring info to next meeting.

ITEM 3. Goosefare Brook water quality

Chair handed out Maine Healthy Beaches. Discussed survey test plan to identify and find the source(s) of contamination. Chair McMullin will contact Saco Conservation Commission regarding their Goosefare Brook Program to find out their understanding of the issue and their action plan.

ITEM 4. Blueberry Plains: plans for usage and kiosk (Ourselves, Cutting Edge or Beach Glass)

Chair is seeking quotes on the construction of a kiosk from local contractors using simple design similar to Ocean Park trail kiosk. We all agreed that it would be best to get a minimum of two quotes from someone local.

ITEM 5. Other business

Discussed next year's budget.

Inventory of wetlands – wood lots; RFP to it update and make a map for GIS

Discussed secretary position, Mr. Koenigs wants to give others an opportunity to do it if they are interested and able.

Next meeting February 13, 2012 – 7:00 PM, OOB High School Library

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

Mark Koenigs

Mark Koenigs, Secretary
(Approved on 2/13/12)