

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 at 7:00 PM
OLD ORCHARD BEACH TOWN HALL

Meeting Called to Order at 7:05pm

Roll Call: Ginger McMullin, John Bird, Linda Jenkins, Mark Koenigs (arrived at 7:15 pm), *Absent* - : Pierre Bouthiller

Meeting attendees list attached for reference.

ITEM 1: Review and approve minutes of August 23, 2010.

Previous meeting minutes were approved with amendments proposed by Mr. Bird. Vote to accept the meeting minutes as amended was unanimous.

ITEM 2: Discussion of Memorial Park Subcommittee / CC budget

Chair opened the discussion of the Memorial Park Subcommittee as a subcommittee of the OOB Con Com. Con Com is evaluating the purpose and need for all of its subcommittees. Mr. Turcotte, Town Manager, reviewed the current structure of the Memorial Park covering Town budget/financing, and operations and maintenance by the Department of Public Works. He covered the budget line items under Con Com, Town purchase order policy, and maintenance and repair work which is managed by Bill Robertson, the Director of Public Works. The vision or long term planning for the Memorial Park still resides with the Memorial Park Subcommittee making recommendations thru the Con Com to the Town Council. All financial planning for both the annual maintenance budget line items and project funding is done thru the Town budgetary process with Department head/chairperson budgetary plan requests, Town Manager review and plan, and the Town Council's final input and approval.

Mr. Robertson reviewed the DPW's annual maintenance tasks and ongoing repair work required mainly due to vandalism. He is frustrated by the vandalism, has requested more police presences, and noted the security camera system is operational. A DPW seasonal employee is maintaining the gardens.

Mr. Turcotte stated that Andrea Berlin had expressed to him that she wants to remain active in the Veteran's Memorial project for Memorial Park which is in the funding and implementation phase. Tina Morrison is concern about losing the visionary component without the subcommittee going forward. Mr. Turcotte stated under the current structure the DPW does the physical work and the subcommittee remains to be the visionary component. Steve Bergeron stated that the subcommittee should remain under the Con Com with the subcommittee reporting to the Con Com. The subcommittee meets the last Wednesday of the month at 7pm the location varies, so look for email notice for location each month. A suggestion was made that a member of the subcommittee should apply for one of the two vacant Con Com alternate member positions to act as liaison. A leader

or group of leaders within the subcommittee needs to step-up to fill Ms. Berlin's previous leadership commitment.

Discussed the chain of command: 1) Subcommittee chair/rep. to talk with Bill Robertson regarding PO expenditure requests and scheduling volunteer events that also require coordination with DPW support. 2) Jack Turcotte and Con Com chair should be advised of Subcommittee's requests or event planning along with Mr. Robertson. 3) Subcommittee to report to Con Com on regular basis, quarterly at a minimum. 4) Annually during budget process, the subcommittee needs to prepare its long range plans for park improvements on a projects basis which will be reported to the Town Council thru the Con Com during Town Council budgetary workshop on Con Com/Memorial Park.

Con Com agreed to keep the Memorial Park Subcommittee as an active part of the Con Com under it duties and responsibilities using the existing subcommittee members for recommendations, vision, volunteer organization and management. The DPW will management of the annual maintenance and repairs budget and conduct the physical work.

ITEM 6: Plans from DPW: Ross Road and Beach Restoration applications

Mr. Robertson gave a detailed update on DPW's Ross Road Project which includes drainage and erosion controls improvements in a two phased project to repave Ross Road. Drainage from portions of Ross Road flows into Goosefare Brook. Mr. Robertson shared with the Con Com Chair a set of plans and permit application information for the Ross Road Project.

Mr. Robertson provided an update on the status of the beach restoration projects. There are limited periods in the calendar year when work can be done on the beach and dunes; April 15 to May 15 and October 1 to November 15. Beach entrances will be surveyed by DPW for current design conditions and to as-built them. Approximately 12 of the 62 entrances will be restored during the next work window under DEP permit by rule. Discussed issues regarding memorial benches located on the beach which are to be maintained by the donator. DPW helps by digging the benches out of dunes after storms and resets them. Memorial benches that are unsafe to should be addressed by the Town; possibly they simply need to be removed.

Mr. Turcotte and Mr. Robertson left at approx. 8:15 pm.

ITEM 3: Discussion of status of Energy Conservation Subcommittee

Discussed the status of the Energy Conservation Subcommittee. Agreed that Mr. LeClerc and Pierre Bouthiller need to be involved in the discussion to get their input. Chair noted that Gary Curtis, OOB's RSU Member, had commented that no one from the school, teachers or administrators, have received or have knowledge of the educational component of the anemometer wind study. Mr. Koenigs noted that at the Con Com's June 14, 2010 meeting both Mr. LeClerc and Pierre Bouthiller mentioned their efforts

and plans to renew their contacts with the OOB school science teachers and admin. regarding the educational opportunities. Follow-up is needed to reach out to the school again; hopefully they will now be ready to use the real world educational opportunity on the RSU property.

ITEM 4: Piping Plover Habitat Maps

Chair noted that she had previously sent out the Piping Plover Habitat Maps to the Members via email for their information and review. There has been one mating pair of Piping Plovers on the OOB beach area over the past 10 years as observed and documented by Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Maine Audubon Society. The annually observed pair(s) has not always been successful in producing offspring to mature adults.

ITEM 5: Beach Management Agreement

Chair explained that the Proposed Beach Management Agreement that was sent to Con Com members is going to be reviewed at the Town Council Workshop meeting on 9/15/10. Conservation Commission has been given the Beach Management Agreement for review and to provide a recommendation to Town Council. Tina Morrison commented on the timing of nesting and leashing dogs and noted that there are few nesting pairs on OOB's beach. Rick Lamb commented on dog leashing time restrictions with respect to nesting or potential pair nesting. He also pointed out that there are other predators that prey on the hatchlings including gulls. Mr. Bird pointed out that there are ground rules to be followed to help improve the survival rates for the Piping Plover and then there is the proposed agreement. The effective period of piping plover management on the beach is April to August. No dogs are allowed on beach by Town Ordinance from 10 am to 5 pm from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The Con Com voted unanimously 4-0 to support of the Beach Management Agreement.

ITEM 7: Schedule site walk for Blueberry Plains?

Chair and Com Com members scheduled a site walk of the Blueberry (Great) Plains for Saturday, October 2, 2010 at 10 am in the morning. The rain date will be Sunday, October 3, 2010, time to be determined.

ITEM 8: Other business:

No other business.

Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Mark Koenigs

Mark Koenigs, Con Com Member
(Approved on 10/11/10)

Meeting Attendee List

Attendees	Representing	Phone#	Email address
Ginger McMullin	Con Com	934-2190	gcmullin@maine.rr.com
Linda Jenkins	Con Com		ljenkins@maine.rr.com
John Bird	Con Com		
Mark Koenigs	Con Com	934-8355	mdkoenigspe@hotmail.com
		Work:	mkoenigs@comdynam.com
Pat Holland	Mem. Park Com.	468-5075	lhasapet@zwi.net
Rick Lamb		934-2741	fvlamb@gmail.com
Carter Whittaker	Mem. Park Com.	934-7809	whitmaine@myfairpoint.net
Helene Whittaker	Mem. Park Com.	934-7809	whitmaine@myfairpoint.net
Tina Morrison	Mem. Park Com.	838-8462	terptina@aol.com
Steve Bergeron	Mem. Park Com.	934-2553	info@whitecapvillage.com
Eileen McNally	OOB Library Director		director@ooblibrary.org
Bill Robertson	OOB Director of Public Works		brobertson@oobmaine.com
Jack Turcotte	Town Manager		jturcotte@oobmaine.com
Guest			
Jerome Begert		934-0370	