

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM  
TOWN HALL IN TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 pm

Member Roll Call: Ginger McMullin, John Bird, Patricia Holland, and Mark Koenigs (arrived at about 7:12 pm during discussion of Item 2); Absent: Pierre Bouthiller, and Karen Brozek, new alternate member

This official Town of OOB meeting of the Conservation Commission was televised live and recorded. A DVD of the recording is filed at the Town Clerk's Office in Town Hall. A DVD copy is available for public review and can be loaned from the Town Clerk.

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 McMullin or Mark Koenigs.

ITEM 1. Review November 2012 minutes

Members reviewed the November 27, 2012 draft minutes with noted recommended corrections for typos and grammar by Mr. Bird. Chair moved to approve the minutes with Mr Bird's recommended corrections. Ms. Holland seconded. Minutes were accepted 3-0.

ITEM 2. Comprehensive Plan

Chair McMullin reviewed the applicable sections of the Comprehensive Plan Committee handouts that she received from Jeffrey Hinderliter, Town Planner and forwarded to Members via email for our use and information. We reviewed the section 9 - Recreation. Milliken Mills Pond as a recreational area with potential for boating and fishing. Mr. Bird brought up the idea of a land trust for the undevelopable properties in the Homewood subdivision, town owned properties on Portland Ave and open space in the new Beachmont Subdivision on Milliken Mills Pond in the northern quadrant of town.

Comprehensive Plan implementation and budget sections we want to discuss with the Committee on December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting are as follows:

- Coliform testing
- Stormwater ordinance; MS4
- Inspection of town owned properties
- Invasive vegetation
- Habitat maps
- Open spaces; Blueberry Plains, 50 acre Woods, Portland Avenue properties.

- Trails and connections of open spaces for public use.
- Limits of development in the northwest part of town
- Sewerage improvements for some of the parts of town; near Milliken Mill Pond
- Encourage development with sewerage existing.

### ITEM 3. Budget

Discussion of the Conservation Commission's FY '14 (7/1/2013-6/10/2014) budget.

Reviewed our FY '12 (\$2,900 budget) and FY '13 (\$3,400 budget) budgets and expenditures. The majority of our appropriated funds for these past two years was spent and committed to the consultant contract for the wetlands surveying and mapping update; \$2000 in FY '12 and \$2,500 in FY '13. We discussed that our planned (budgeted) expenditures should to be for firm committed needs and for projects that we have planned and are committed to complete in the planned budget year.

Budget areas that were discussed with rough dollar estimates are summarized below:

- Education, training, conferences, website improvements: \$1000
- MEACC membership dues : \$ 200
- Kiosks/Signage for three (3)locations \$500ea: \$1500
- Surface Water Testing (by others): \$ ???
- Trail Connector – Preliminary Permit Engineering/Exp. \$ TBD

We discussed that we do need to promote education of the Town's residents on local environmental and conservation projects and information. We plan to do so through posting information and links on the Town's website under our Conservation Commission page. We also will need to provide the opportunity for training, education and conferences for our members. We agreed for now to provide a lump sum of a rough amount for education, training, conferences and website improvements.

Chair McMullin pointed out that this year we did not pay for Maine Association of Conservation Commissions (MEACC) membership dues of \$200.00. We discussed the services and information that we gain from a MEACC membership. The MEACC does send out email notices of current legislation, activities and project of other Maine Conservation Commissions, and holds training tours and seminars at low cost for members.

We discussed that we need to follow through on our previous commitment to install a kiosk and updated sign at the Blueberry Plains property near the parking area and old weathered existing Great Plain sign. We concluded that we need to budget for two (2) other kiosks/signs; one at the Portland Avenue and one at the ET/Pond View Rd. trail head.

Mr. Bird suggested that the Conservation Commission present the need for Surface Water Testing. We discussed that the actual budget for the cost of the testing would be in another town department like Wastewater Treatment or DPW. The Conservation Commission does not have staff or department head to administer and manage a contract for sampling, testing, and reporting.

Mr. Koenigs presented a very preliminary worksheet on the OOB ET Connector Trail that may be used by the Subcommittee to develop a working project budget. The worksheet has the trail broken down into discrete trail sections by trail type and surface material. It includes columns for work units and materials to summarize the overall preliminary estimate quantities for the trail sections. Note any preliminary budget is based on our preliminary design which is incomplete, so the quantities will be subject to change as design changes. Once the subcommittee has completed our first pass to fill out the worksheet to estimate the quantities we could then request a meeting with Bill Robertson, DPW Director, to get his input to firm up a budgetary plan number. At the same time we need to identify areas of the trail that do need permit and design engineering to assist Bill Robertson as he sees a need. The engineering services may be in-house or may need to be hired through an RFP by the DPW Director or Conservation Commission.

#### ITEM 4. Other business

An update of the Wetland Survey work by hired Consultant:

Mr. Bird read into the written record an email from Stacie Grove, NewEarth Ecological Consulting with the update on the OOB wetlands mapping:

From: Stacie Grove <[sgrove@newearthecological.com](mailto:sgrove@newearthecological.com)>  
Subject: Update on OOB Wetland Mapping Effort  
To: "Ginger McMullin" <[gmcnullin@maine.rr.com](mailto:gmcnullin@maine.rr.com)>, "John R. Bird" <[jrb\\_oobcc@yahoo.com](mailto:jrb_oobcc@yahoo.com)>  
Cc: "Erynn Call" <[erynn.call@maine.edu](mailto:erynn.call@maine.edu)>  
Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2012, 4:19 PM

Hi Ginger and John,

We've been taking advantage of the great weather and continuing our field work on the wetland mapping effort.

I would like to schedule a call or meeting with you in the near future to discuss the questions I had brought up in my previous email relating to the functional assessment. However, in the meantime we have continued to focus our efforts on verifying wetland locations in the field, and mapping those locations in GIS. We are approximately 1/3 of the way complete with the task of on-site field verification of the wetlands (for areas that we are able to access).

Our plan is to revisit each location in the spring to perform the full assessment. This allows us the opportunity to clearly define the boundaries of each unique wetland complex prior to attempting the assessment, and to evaluate site conditions when vegetation is in full growth.

Please don't hesitate to give me a call if you have any questions or concerns, or if you'd like to plan a meeting at this time.

**Stacie Grove**

NewEarth Ecological Consulting

Mr. Bird inquired on the Memorial Park Subcommittee and 8 Heath Street site plan and the planned park easement to the new property owner.

Ms. Holland gave a brief update on the Memorial Park Subcommittee latest meeting they held last week. They covered their concerns with the management of the park maintenance and the budget. They worked on their check list for the Annual Maintenance schedule of tasks by areas; an example was the playground equipment inspections and repairs for children safety, and the checking the thickness and grading of the mulch in the playground area and subsequent replacement or redistribution to insure the underground separation barrier is adequately covered. The Memorial Park Subcommittee also discussed the easement and the Chair Mary Beth Robillard plans to attend the Planning Board's meeting on 4/13/12.

Pierre Bouthiller has submitted his written resignation from the Conservation Commission effective immediately. His term would have expired on 12/31/12.

Chair McMullin will contact alternate member, Karen Brozek, to inquire if she plans to continue her membership or would be resigning. Karen has missed the past couple meetings, since September.

Chair McMullin announced that after the beginning of next year she will be stepping down from the Conservation Commission (as a member), but plans to continue to serve on the Trail Subcommittee.

Conservation Commission discussed the status of other members and the need for three (3) and possibly four (4) new members; two (2) members and one (1) or two (2) alternate members. It would be nice to have volunteers step forward to serve before our next meeting in January, 2013.

Next meeting January 14, 2013 – 7:00 PM, OOB Town Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

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Mark Koenigs, Secretary  
(Submitted for approved on 12/16/12)