

OLD ORCHARD BEACH CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, Sept 13, 2021, 7:00 PM

Town Hall

Members attending: Barry Jackman (acting chair), Dawn Marie Dunbar, Mark Koenigs, Cynthia Nye

Absent: Kimbark Smith, Irv Paradis

Guest: Lynne Yeamans

1. Fall School Plans Update

Bat houses and posters have been installed.

The Community Friendly Connections committee wants to plant pollinator gardens in OOB for the community. Probably conversations in the fall; plant in the spring. Cynthia will suggest to Cathy that they record the meeting when the botanist comes to Community Friendly Connections.

2. OP Recycle Program - Irv

Report from Barry: There are now barrels on Temple Ave at Guild Park for recycling and trash. The trial has gone well.

3. Leash Committee- Barry

An ad hoc committee with 6 members met twice this summer, Barry as vice chair representing the Con Com. In OOB, the "leash law" is really an ordinance. The town will publish the proposed changes and hold a public hearing on October 19; information will be posted on the town website and in the Portland Press Herald. OOB intends to mirror rules on Pine Point Beach, Scarborough. Dogs can be on the beach until 9 a.m. and must be on leashes from May 15 to September 15. Kim will write the committee's rules. Town Council could make it less restrictive; more restrictive would require a new hearing.

4. Sumter Landing and the Solar Farm Update- Action Plan

Dawn Marie, Cynthia, and Mark walked the trail Mark laid out on the section next to Saco line, continued to mark the trail across the back of the property and through the green space to Ross Road. Mark and Kimbark met with Greg Cloutier, homeowner and realtor; he's interested in the proposed connection to Eastern Trail through the Eastern Trail Estates. Mark and Cynthia walked from the parking lot to Summerlong and back, flagging a trail that connects the 4 acre town property to the parking area, passing behind the log cabin. We still need to flag from the back of that property to the solar farm property and kiosk to be built there.

Solar Farm - Next Amp - due to start clearing on September 9, 2021.

We will keep working on the trails over 2-3 weekends; may get UNE students involved.

Dawn-Marie will follow up at UNE.

Barry will talk to someone at Saco Bay Trails about tips and equipment.

5. Good and Welfare

The woman cleaning School Street Connector Trail has connected with Lisa at DPW. She was confronted by a police officer while she was dumping litter in the DPW dumpster; now has a pass.

Barry found more copies of the old guide to the plants of Ocean Park.

Neither Cynthia nor Barry did beach profiling

Blackswallowwort: StanTech treated plants on Weymouth, Irv removed some there; Mark removed pods at sites on Fern Ave; we need to get DPW to work with the homeowner on Fern and Second.

Invasive plant program on NPR

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 20, 2021 (on Wednesday due to Indigenous Peoples Day holiday)

Minutes submitted by Cynthia Nye, clerk

Kimbark G. Smith, Chair OOB Conservation Commission