

## **OLD ORCHARD BEACH CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

Monday, November 13, 2022 7:00 PM

Town Hall

Attendees: Kimbark Smith, Barry Jackman, Charlie Backus, Cynthia Nye, Irv Paradis

Incoming member: Mary Pat Donellon

Member of the Public: Kayci Willis

### **1. General Updates**

#### **Blueberry Plains**

- Mark and Kimbark installed plexiglass in the three Blueberry Plains kiosks. Cynthia and John installed posters made with artwork from the pollinator art contest and a drawing unit created by Loranger Memorial art teacher Jessie Hurteau. All students' work is displayed in the kiosks, along with the trail maps Mark made for Blueberry Plains.
- The Blueberry Plains trail walk was very successful. Five people came to the walk Cynthia hosted on October 28, the original date. The full walk was postponed to November 4. Eight people attended that walk, hosted by Kayci Willis. Feedback was very positive, and people had heard about it through many channels. Kimbark suggested creating a plan for some consistency from walk to walk, e.g., how many species to highlight.

#### **Dunes, Fencing, and Flooding**

- Irv and Kimbark met with the town manager, Diana; Chris White; and Tim, executive assistant.. Snow fencing apparently isn't allowed in the dunes, per DEP? Post and rope fencing have been buried, and that type of fence doesn't stop dogs from going into the dunes or people from cutting their own paths through the dunes. They've asked for someone from DEP to come to a meeting to talk about fencing and dunes.
- Fence at the end of Weymouth was replaced by the neighbors after it was damaged by a backhoe. Town paid for materials. Dunes were blown out at the end of Porter and can't be restored.
- New Salt Road will be repaired with money from FEMA. The project is going out to bid and should happen before high season.
- The \$50,000 grant money is available for an assessment of the marshes around OP. Assistant Town Planner Mike Foster will manage that project.

#### **Hemlock Woolly Adelgid**

- Kimbark and Irv talked with the town manager about getting insurance coverage for Irv as an unpaid employee once he is certified to spray pesticides on specific trees. Chris White, head of DPW and water treatment plant, is looking into whether Con Com members are/can be covered when working on trails.
- Next trail walk? Kayci and Cynthia will consider hosting one at Milliken Mills in

December.

- Roger Stevens memorial text lines:
  - 
  - The committee approved this inscription.
  - Kb will take the statue to Roger's family to have for Thanksgiving, then return it to the sculptor for its case and plaque.

Minutes submitted by Cynthia Nye

Kimbark G. Smith, Chair OOB Conservation Commission