

OLD ORCHARD BEACH CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, December 8, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
Town Hall

Members in attendance: Kimbark Smith, Mary Pat Donnellon, Cynthia Nye
Guests: Guy Fontaine; Janet Anderson - OP environmental committee

1. Updates by Members

Ash and Hemlock Project - Fifth grade students sent posters and letters reporting findings and requesting ConCom support. Kimbark will talk to Larry Mead about the ash trees in Memorial Park and ask whether they can be treated for Emerald Ash Borer. The Conservation Commission will pay \$3,000.00 for HWA beetles. Milliken North kiosk was knocked over by a truck; Kimbark will find out where the pieces and posters are; can they be recovered/repaired?

Composting at Loranger School- Kimbark will find out how ConCom can pay Diggers Cooperative for composting in the 2025-26 school year.

Composting in OOB - Mary Pat met with Diana, who said Casela is now composting with Agricycle. They have a facility in Exeter, Maine. Diana is recommending to the Town Council that OOB do this for a year within the town budget: two bins in the winter, four bins in the summer, available on Valley Drive.

Canoe launch for Little River between Ross Road and Little River Rd - Kimbark and Mark canoe-ed it and removed a fallen tree; now people can travel throughout the river area. Kimbark will go to the Planning Board tomorrow to request the town create 3 parking places on Ross Rd. There are stairs beside the culvert.

Milliken Mills North - Mark and Kimbark rebuilt the ramps onto the boardwalk. Many people are using the trails.

Ahearn Acres Donation, Portland Ave: the new parking lot is finished. A trail to the Eastern Trail will be built. Kimbark will advocate for it to be ADA compliant.

March Resiliency Study - report should be available by the end of December.

Guild Park - Janet reported on the Ocean Park environmental committee's work with state entomologist Colleen Teerling and forester Jesse Duplin. The Management Plan included marking and thinning trees to let in sunlight and

replenish the undergrowth. Thinning is happening now; new plantings are planned in the spring. Guy said the original transfer agreement prohibited cutting trees or spraying poisons and asked how the project got around those restrictions. Guy will send Janet a copy of the agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Cynthia Nye
Kimbark G. Smith, Chair OOB Conservation Commission