

OGUNQUIT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for the Thursday, May 18, 2017 meeting

A) ROLL CALL

Present: Bill Baker, Doug Mayer, Bill Lee, Pam Sawyer, Cindy Douglass.

Observer and participant: Margret Weeks.

B) MINUTES

S 4/20/17

With the change under 'Third party easements...' to 'Doug Mayer suggested...' the April minutes were accepted with a motion made by Pam Sawyer, seconded by Bill Lee.

C) ONGOING BUSINESS 1. Maine Association of Conservation Commissions

Bill Baker described the meeting at the Brunswick library, that a trail expert who had created trails all over Maine and the rest of the country spoke of and showed examples of the differing kind of trails he had worked with in his career so far. Bill went on to refer to the presentation he and Judy Baker had made, and then the sharing time about what other conservation commissions were working on. Most seemed to be trying to revive their commissions and caring for trails in their town. There seemed to be a lot of interest in Ogunquit's pesticide ordinance, especially from Westbrook's representatives.

Cindy Douglass asked if all Maine towns had to have a conservation commission. No one knew. (Mike Horn clarified this – Maine has no mandate that towns must have a conservation commission. Ogunquit did not have one till the 2003 till one at Town Meeting approving the 2003 Comprehensive Plan).

Doug Mayer suggested working with the conservation commissions involved in the Great Works Land Trust and perhaps York as well. Margaret further mentioned working with our local ConCom neighbors to see if there are ways we could work with one another. Pam Sawyer thought it would be a good idea to see

what other commissions are working on and using their experience if we are working on something similar.

2. Beach Conference at Wells High School. Bill asked who might be interested in going to this conference and will forward the information about the beach conference when it becomes available. Pam Sawyer and Bill Lee will not be available for this July 14 conference.

3. Environmental Award presentation. Bill Baker thanked the members who attended the presentation and had nominated Mary Breen for this year's award; he had no idea how much Mary had done and continues to do for Ogunquit's environment. Cindy Douglass reminded us that Mary Breen was also paying it forward by volunteering to show other businesses what she was doing to make an environmental difference in Ogunquit.

4. 10 and 12 Beach Plum Lane. The trustees of this property have taken their case to Superior Court. Discussion ensued. Bill Baker and Bill Lee will send Bill Lee's memo to the town attorney, Natalie Burns, showing that the initial application for the pier and dock to the DEP was misleading and perhaps deceptive and that the application clearly states any false or misleading statements would possibly result in fines and/or imprisonment. Cindy Douglas and Pam stated that a paper trail needs to be established confirming receipt of information by the Town Lawyer.

5. New FEMA flood zones. FEMA has sent the town the new flood zones; Scott has the maps for these new zones. Pam Sawyer thought her neighbors and the Dunes might be affected.

6. Another grant? A continuation of the Coastal Community grant was offered a few weeks ago, after the warrant had been approved by the Select Board and sent to the state. Wells is applying for this grant that includes all the towns in the Ogunquit River watershed.

7. Trail for Ogunquit Town Woods / Additional Land? There was much discussion about the Sewer District and those who were upset by the rumor that the Sewer District had bought the Roby Pond property. This was not the case; the sewer district, Pam Sawyer pointed out, a list of potential properties that the District may consider as potential locations for a new treatment site is on the SD website for their eventual move inland.

Doug Meyer is hesitant about making a trail where ticks, some possibly disease carrying, are so abundant and suggested that Parks and Recreation might be interested in making trails. Pam Sawyer thought the Parks and Recreation committee is mainly interested in the Village School and the existing parks. We will come back to this when snow is on the ground.

8. Well testing: Pam Sawyer reported that the well at the town garage had been tested and the results sent to the lab, with an analysis available in a week or two. There was some discussion regarding the disconnect between some of the town officials and various town committees.

Pam Sawyer made the motion to adjourn at 7:56. Bill Lee seconded the motion.