

OGUNQUIT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting minutes for Thursday, September 21, 2017

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

Minutes for 8/17/17 – Doug Mayer made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Pam Sawyer seconded the motion.

FP Environmental Update – Bill Baker reported that Project Manager Laura Diemer said that copies of the pet waste and septic system maintenance brochures were distributed to over 40 homes as well talking with the residents/renters. Laura working with Scott Heyland ordered pet waste signage and catch basin stencils to place in the problem neighborhoods. The engineering firm, ACF, has a formal design plan for the Main Beach parking lot, retrofitting the catch basins in the parking lot with filters and a larger infiltration "R-tank" system that will capture and infiltrate runoff. The lower lot was completed and the plants and stones are in. Phase II ends at the end of this year. Bill is trying to arrange a time for Laura to make a presentation to the Select Board.

Pam Sawyer witnessed the problem of dog owners walking their dogs on the river side where dogs are not allowed; Pam suggested that the people at the booth could hand out an explanation of where dogs are allowed and where they are not. Cindy Douglass will see the Visitors Services and create a beach dog allowed area explanation or map to be given to dog owners.

Talk with Town Manager – Bill Baker summed up his discussion with Pat Finnegan, covering subjects such as the work with FP Environmental; Norseman drainage problems; new signs for the dunes; dune trespass fines increased from \$50; fencing management including a monthly check on fence conditions and proper aluminum ties for holding the fencing together (both suggestions by JP our head lifeguard); housing for the lifeguards; Town Woods easement; storage for files; proper display of those plaques and trophies honoring the town and the Conservation Commission; trail help perhaps from the town crew; our website and blog, and attempts to network with other conservation commissions through the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions.

Wood Burning Pits – Cindy Douglass cited the problems with these wood fired fire pits in crowded areas where sometimes their smoke can become serious health hazards. Bill Lee described an example of the burning of old construction material near his home and the difficulty he had with the fire department doing something about this. Doug Mayer pointed out that there is an existing ordinance against smoke being an annoyance and that propane burning 'fire pits' can be a less harmful alternative. Pam Sawyer will try to be at the Planning Board's Workshop on September 25.

Updates of Materials used by Lawn Services – Bill Baker explained because of the changing use of pesticides and fertilizers used by lawn and garden services that a Commission member or members meet with Scott Heyland in December or January and ask that he send a letter requesting for the materials these lawn and garden companies use along with their EPA numbers. This was tabled until a later meeting.

An ordinance banning further piers in the river – Bill Baker and Pam Sawyer will meet with Scott Heyland and ask him to prepare an ordinance with the Planning Board for the June ballot banning further pier development; Cindy Douglass will meet with Scott at a later time as well.

Installation of BMPs in new parking lots to control car pollutants – Doug Mayer raised this issue at our last meeting. Doug Mayer will meet with Scott Heyland to discuss this.

Easement for Ogunquit Town Woods ordinance – Bill Baker will ask Scott Heyland about putting a conservation easement on the Town Woods to be held by Great Works Land Trust.

Maine Association of Conservation Commissions – networking – Bill Baker spoke of his wish to create a list of Maine's conservation commissions with a list of each commission's recent projects and discussions. He has contacted all the commissions in Cumberland county once and those in York county twice. Only a handful has responded. Bill feels those that have not responded are not active.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:56.