



**Ogunquit Conservation Commission Minutes
Thursday, June 21, 2018 Dunaway Center, 6:30 pm**

Present: Pamela Sawyer, Doug Mayer, Cindy Douglass, Bill Wood, Bill Lee

Guest: Pat Finnigan, Town Manager

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chair Doug Mayer.

Approval of May 17, 2018 Minutes: Bill Lee made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Cindy Douglass, motion carried with one amendment on “Trail Clean-up” to be added regarding the volunteer statement should reference people from Great Woods Regional Trust.

Welcome to the Commission extended to new member Bill Wood.

Guest Speaker: Lindsay Tudor, Shorebird biologist Maine IFW

Lindsay met with the Conservation Commission for 25 minutes to explain what and how many “Interpretative Signs” were available to Ogunquit. Lindsay brought examples of signs depicting:

1. “Help Us Protect Shorebirds”, keeping dogs on leashes, people off dunes, trash on the beach (Carry in, Carry out) etc.
2. Pictures and types of Shorebirds
3. Maine’s Piping Plovers
4. “Share the Shore with Our Wildlife”
5. “Important Roosting Area”

The Committee discussed the number of signs that may be needed, where the best placement of the signs should be. Since Lindsay had only 30 minutes she could stay the specifics of what would be needed was tabled until the next meeting.

Ongoing Business:

1. Clean-up of Public Pathway to the Beach next to the Norseman

The narrow pathway between the dunes and the Norsemen Resort has been cleared of debris and is “adequate” for pedestrian traffic. Town Manager, Pat Finnigan is aware that there is a sign stating “Public Beach Access” and therefore this area needs to be maintained. There is still an ongoing debate as to who owns this strip of land.

2. Signage and fencing on the Beach

This remains an on-going problem both in regards to trespassing on the dunes and the prohibition of dogs. No additional signage authorized at this time. The riverside fencing is in disrepair and needs to be accessed and replaced where needed.

3. Status of Plovers

There are approximately 17 chicks. Any fencing will not be considered until after August and the last of the plovers have left.

4. New Member

Bill Wood completed and turned in an application to become a member of the Conservation Commission. He has been to be approved by the Board of Selectpersons.

New Business

- The Town voters approved \$25,000 for the land trust restricted account on June 12th.
- It was agreed upon by the Committee that the Conversation “Blog” would not be continued at this time. It may resume at a later date if there is a volunteer to keep it updated.
- Pam Sawyer will make sure that there are posters up on Tick Bite Prevention.
- Discussion regarding increasing the fines for trespassing on the dunes and dogs on the beach was tabled until the July meeting.
- Doug Mayer said he would speak with the Code Enforcement Officer regarding the regulations (State and Town) for maintaining septic systems in the Shore land Overlay District and other parts of town. He would also ask how this was being monitored and enforced.
- Still seeking new members.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting is July 19, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Dunaway Center

Respectively Submitted: Pamela Sawyer, Conservation Commission