



Ogunquit Conservation Commission Minutes
Thursday, August 16, 2018 Dunaway Center, 6:30 pm

Present: Pamela Sawyer, Doug Mayer, Cindy Douglass, Laura Brogan

Absent: Bill Lee, Bill Wood

Guests: Peter Kahn, Priscilla Botsford, Suzanne Williams

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

Ongoing Business:

1. The Commission Members present signed the Ogunquit Code of Ethics for Boards and Committees. Doug will see that the remaining members sign the Code of Ethics.
2. The Commission briefly reviewed Title XIII Ogunquit Municipal Code Conservation Ordinance. There was discussion regarding the reference that the Commission must follow the Comprehensive Plan. Since the Comp Plan is only a guide, it was suggested that the Ordinance be looked at in detail at a later date.
3. The Commission is moving forward on obtaining Interpretive signs as proposed by Lindsey Tudor. Doug will follow-up with Lindsey's replacement.
4. The plovers have departed the dunes and beach area so the stake/twine fencing can be removed plus any buried old fencing with metal stakes and exposed rusty nails.
5. The Town Manager was bringing forth a warrant article at the next Select Board meeting to increase the fines for Trespassing on the dunes and dogs on the beach when they are not allowed. Dogs are **never** allowed on the river and estuary side on beach. It is important that there is adequate signage stating this. SB liaison for the ConCom, Madeline Mooney will champion this initiative.
6. The Commission continues to recruit new members.
7. Signage reminding people of ticks needs to remain in place, especially along the trails and parks.
8. Doug encouraged Commission members to try and attend the "Celebration of Life for Bill Baker" on August 22nd at 2 p.m. at the Dunaway Center.
9. ConCom continues to speak with CEO regarding the Ordinances concerning the monitoring of septic systems, reporting of systems that have failed, and enforcement of fixing failed systems: especially those that are near the watershed areas, streams, river and beach. There are approximately 250 residential septic systems in Ogunquit. A

member of the Comprehensive Plan Committee stated at an open town workshop meeting that the Commission needs to do “their job” and clean-up the watershed and failed systems. It needs to be recognized that Chair Mayer stated; we are not an enforcement agency, it is the responsibility of the CEO to monitor and enforce Code.

10. Discussion of small cell installation proposal.

New Business

1. A discussion was started about the management of storm water. What is the Town’s waste water management plan and who is in charge of it? This is an ongoing discussion.
2. Recently there have been high bacterial counts measured on the river side of the beach by Maine Healthy Beaches. The Commission feels that these need to be posted for the public to see and also be updated daily on the Town Website. More important, the cause for these high bacterial counts need to identified and a plan developed to decrease them.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next meeting is September 20, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the Dunaway Center

Respectively Submitted: Pamela Sawyer, Conservation Commission