

**DRAFT MINUTES
MARGINAL WAY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, August 7, 2017
DUNAWAY CENTER-4PM**

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present- P. Breen, J. Griswold, L. Gillespie and K. Arnold
Members Excused - J. Oliver

Helen Horn, the retired Chair, was present.
A quorum was noted.

Scott Heyland, the Ogunquit Code Enforcement Officer was present.

B. MINUTES

The minutes of the May 1, 2017 meeting of the Marginal Way Committee were approved.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT

With the resignation of the Committee's Treasurer, Joan Griswold offered to take over this post. The Committee approved this appointment by vote.

The balance in the Marginal Way's Beautification Fund's account was not available and will be reported at the next meeting

D. CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

1) Weekly Maintenance for the Marginal Way

The efforts expended by the DPW crew who mow, clean and prune the Marginal Way weekly appears to be effective.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1) POD Day

Pod picking day on the Marginal Way is scheduled for Saturday morning, August 19th. The members are asked to participate. This event will be publicized along with a request for volunteers.

2) Viability of Committee

As the last two Committee meetings were cancelled due to a lack of a quorum, the Committee discussed what changes if any should be made to the meeting schedule to support better conformance with the member's schedules. No changes were recommended. The Committee members agreed to improve their attendance record.

3) Citizen Commentary on the Seaside Garden

A letter was read from David Barton, which contained concerns about the status of the Seaside Gardens. Two comments were made:

a) The plants at the south end of the Seaside Garden appeared to be suffering from excess water, which passed through that area of the garden.

b) Concern was expressed that the garden had not meet the writer's level of expectations.

After reviewing the garden plot plan, the Committee affirmed that the garden had been planted in accordance with the plot plan, which had been briefed to the Select Board, and that the flowering of the garden plants had occurred on schedule as described in the same presentation.

The source of water at the south end of the garden appears to be rainwater, which runs down the abutting hill. Note was made that as part of the Devils' Kitchen project, a water control system had been installed which significantly reduced the volume of rainwater moving down that hill.

Note was made that blueberry bushes, which were planted as part of the installation of the garden, did not initially prosper but after a short period of time this year, these plants appeared to be growing.

The Committee discussed asking the Town Manager to address the viability of the plants at the south end of the Seaside Garden.

The citizen's letter brought up the topic of maintenance for the Seaside Garden and who was paying for it. The Committee agreed to ask the Town Manager to identify the schedule and payments made for the maintenance of the Seaside Garden.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1) Invasive Control Program Activities

Work continues on removing Invasive Plants along the Marginal Way, pruning trees and planting salt tolerant native plants and shrubs. Significant volumes of invasive plants were removed during the past few months. Native plants, which were installed early this year at sites along the Marginal Way, are growing and appeared healthy.

2) Trail Grant Project

Efforts are underway to determine if an upgrade to the revetment at the Trail Grant site will be accomplished. Under consideration is the replacement of the top layers of rock in the revetment and replacing with rock of similar size and darker color.

A specification for the potential upgrade to the revetment at the Trail Grant site has been developed. Once a decision is made to move forward, the Marginal Way Committee and the Select Board will be briefed as to the next course of action.

3) Eroded Embankment on the Marginal Way, which abuts the Beachmere Inn

A draft Statement of Work has been developed for an Engineering Study, which will be conducted to determine the methods, material and costs required to correct the eroded embankment, which abuts the Beachmere Inn on the Marginal Way. The draft document

will be submitted next month to the Marginal Way Committee for discussion and review.

4) Erosion Control Project for the Marginal way

The proposed erosion control project had been funded by the voters at the June election.

The Code Enforcement Officer indicated that the DPW should be tasked to execute that project. He will bring this topic to the new Town Manager for action by the DPW.

5) Readout from the Marginal Way’s People Counter

In the process of reading out the data stored within the People Counter for the period from November 30,2016 to July 1,2017, that data was erased. Discussions with the vendor indicate that once erased that data is removed from the People Counter’s memory.

An alternate process has been established to conduct these readouts monthly.

G. OTHER

None

H. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned @ 5:30PM.

The next meeting of the Marginal Way Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 5’ 2017 @ 4PM at the Dunaway Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Breen
Secretary

+===== **LETTER OF COMMENT** =====+

Subject: Griffin Garden Question?

To; Joan Griswold

There is a small group of residents who may never have been favor of Griffin's Seaside Garden who are now convinced it may have been "free" but is not the aesthetic visual they were anticipated based on presentations made by the MW committee. I was approached for my opinion having been a supporter of the concept and supporter of the landscape architect's renderings. Question: Am I satisfied with the result?

Quite frankly, I have been waiting for the the whole picture to develop. I am prepared to say the current garden could be considered a failed project. Some of the choices of plant material are crowding out other plants. At the south end the promised erosion control appears to be failing.

Maybe having the town reclaim the site and replacing it with natural planting groups with "neighborhood compatibility" at this highly visible site would not stand out as some sort of man made statement. The original priority was the removal of the pine trees.

I most likely will not be back in time for the 4:00pm MW meeting today to voice my concern and the concern of some others. There is no public input on your agenda so it would seem I could request a board member read this or put me on the agenda for the meeting next month.

Thanks for reading my email to this point.

Take care,

Dave Barton