

OWLS HEAD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting at Town Office: Oct. 6, 2014, 6:30 PM

Attendees: Kathryn DerMarderosian, Jeanne Johnson, Deena Carafelli, John Ware, Tony DerMarderosian, Annette Naegel

Kathryn DerMarderosian reported on the current status of the park project. The commission will continue to look for possible locations and properties to serve as an outdoor community green space for residents. Reduction of the sale price of the former Buckminster property would put the land under consideration for purchase by the CC, but not at the current sale price.

The work of Conservation Commissions was discussed, falling into three categories: Activity, Education and Advocacy. To further illustrate, Annette Naegel from GRLT cited examples of projects in neighboring towns such as St. George's Protection of interior wetlands, and trails.

The members referred to the vision statement contained in the OH Comprehensive Plan, specifically the list of attributes gleaned from resident surveys to inform their next steps.

- -small town atmosphere preserved
- -controlled development of open land
- -quality water and adequate sewage resources
- -more trails for hiking and biking
- -improved recreational and commercial access to the waterfront
- -attention to reducing environmental pollution
- -improved schools

Activity: Create more hiking trails- Agenda for the December meeting, allow time to prepare maps, explore funding possibilities, and invite a rep. from the Friends of St. George to share their experience of creating trails, which has been a very successful project for them.

Beth Long has been researching a beautification project: Erecting a stone wall along the fire pond, replacing the existing guardrail, getting estimates, and exploring grant funding the project

Education: Creation of a kiosk containing information relevant to conservation. This topic will form the agenda for the next meeting. A Kiosk: Location, Content, Design, Funding, Construction, and Maintenance.

The Conservation Commission members wish to expand the group and create an ongoing robust organization to meet the needs of the community. Their connection with the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions links the group to a larger network and therefore greater resources and support. Increased membership is crucial.

Adjourned: 7:20PM

Next Meeting: Monday, Oct. 20th, 6:30 PM

