

Minutes from the Owls Head Conservation Commission meeting held on 9/11/2017.

Members Present: Kathryn DerMarderosian ,Jeanne Johnson, Dick Matlack and Beth Long. Stuart Rich, Harvey and Jean Singer, and Catherine Wiejaczka were also present. The meeting was held at the Owls Head Village Library and began at 6:00 p.m.

Plaisted Preserve(PP) : Tony DerMarderosian has volunteered to work on putting the legs on the small kiosk for the parking area.

Owls Head Village Common Project (Former Buckminster Property) – the remainder of the meeting was taken up with discussion about the former Buckminster Property in the village. The property is still for sale and now is at an asking price of \$130,000 for the entire 9 acre parcel. Kathryn has gone back to the Selectmen. A new article will be drafted for a special town meeting to once again give the commission permission to purchase the property on behalf of the town if we are successful in our fundraising efforts. This also includes the conservation easement by the George River Land Trust. Kathryn has edited the original letter seeking donations for the project from four years ago. She is looking for volunteers to address these next week so that they can be sent out to the people that had pledged funds in the past. She then read a letter from Paul Murray, an abutter to the property, telling about his relationship to the land and its former owner, Billy Buckminster. She also showed the power point presentation that we originally created as a tool for fundraising. Several people present made some excellent suggestions. These included contacting relatives of some of the people buried next to the property to see if we could raise some funds by adding additional space for graves or for a “buffer” for the cemetery. Stuart volunteered to see how much taxes the town receives from this property and the impact it would have on the tax base if the town were to purchase the property. Beth suggested that members of our group meet with the cemetery commission and the Mussel Ridge Historical Society to see if they have any interest in joining in the fundraising efforts. Harvey also suggested that the group come up with a plan “B” in case one of the parcels is sold or if not enough funds are raised. Kathryn will email the group if there are any new developments.

Lecture Series: Bats with Annie Kassler, October 28th. Kathryn will reach out to Annie about the program and get materials so that we can publicize the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the commission will be Monday, October 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Owls Head Village Library.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Johnson