OWLS HEAD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING - JAN. 9, 2017

MINUTES

ATTENDED: Deena Carafelli, Beth Long, Kathryn DerMarderosian, Dick Matlack, Jim Devery, Mary Ellen Throe, Catherine Wiejaczka, Annette Naegel and John Hufnagel

With regard to Plaisted Preserve, funds from the Field’s Pond Grant have been received. The OHCC allocated 45% to GRLT, and 55% to the Town of Owls Head - Conservation Commission. Pam sent check out, and letter of appreciation to Fields Pond Foundation.

Beth and Bill Long, worked to clear more of the trail and Beth has marked out the trail from the North Shore Drive entrance to Broad Cove. See blue square markers. This is a beginning with more work to be done. Beth will contact Trekkers again regarding removing invasive species, weather permitting.

Frank Ross has the post for the preserve sign stored at the Fire Department until weather permits its installation. Bill has the sign which was temporarily displayed for the commission members walk through that took place last Saturday. Bill will keep it stored on his property until Frank is ready for it. Bill will take photos of the kiosk to send out to members, along with the dimensions. Members are asked to come with specific ideas of where to erect the kiosk and what types of information should be included. Deena mentioned that she would like to see maps of green public spaces within the town. Annette said that GRLT can make up maps.

Deena will attend a meeting held by Dick Carver and other lobsterman regarding the town harbor property tomorrow evening- Jan.10th. Dick expressed the group’s interest in having the Conservation Commission involved with the discussion for future plans. There was a short discussion about how to view the three properties together: Parking lot, newly purchased lot, and the parcel held by Maine Coast Heritage Trust. Deena will share what she learned at next meeting.

The newly installed guardrail along the fire pond was a surprise to us all. Beth had been in contact with a rep from the state road commission with our proposed plan of building a moderate sized wall bookended with plantings. When Beth spoke to the rep, he was unaware of the plan to install the guardrail. At this point, we have learned that the guardrail can be painted and that a flowering hedge can be placed along the guardrail to meet the goals of the beautification project.

Fundraising. After much discussion, the community dinner/ social gained the most support, preceded by a morning walk through the preserve. A date, Earth Day, April 22nd, 5PM in the community room at the town office building was decided upon contingent on the availability of the space. Annette mentioned combining the event with
student involvement, and Earth Day art project or the like. Everyone liked the idea. First, the date must be confirmed.

Some of the members felt they would like to send GRLT the entire amount from the grant funds, to honor our commitment. Others would like to keep the percentage split of the grant as is, and raise funds for both the GRLT and OHCC at the planned fundraiser. A vote was taken. The group was split. A third option was presented to hold the fundraiser, and if at that time we do not meet the intended goal, we will honor our financial obligation to GRLT from OHCC funds. At this time, things will remain as is.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30

Next meeting Monday, February 6th, 6PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn DerMarderosian