

Harpswell Conservation Commission
Minutes
May 18, 2016

Opened Meeting: 1:42 PM.

Roll Call: Mary Ann Nahf, Deirdre Strachan, Wendy Batson, Ann Nemrow.

Absent: Paul Ciesielski, Burr Taylor, Sue Vachon, Anne Perry.

Approval of 5/4 Minutes: The minutes were approved unanimously, as presented.

Announcements:

Casco Bay Estuary Project (CBEP):

Matt Craig discussed with M. Nahf four possible candidates for a grant that CBEP is considering regarding tidal restricted areas in Town wetlands. Of the four discussed, the two of interest to HCC are the Long Marsh area that is narrow and restricts water flow, and the Wallace Shore Road wetland sited to the north, and south of Shore Rd. Since these projects are located in Open Space focus areas and are of ongoing areas of interest with relatively few residents involved, the commissioners agreed with M. Nahf's assessment.

"Save the Bay" Brochure:

D. Strachan discussed adaptations to last year's "Save the Bay" flyer for distribution to boaters in and around New Meadows River and Quahog Bay. The Holbrook Foundation logo will be added to the New Meadows flue and distributed at Watson's store, Holbrook's snack bar and Long Island and other island piers. Remove D. Hunter's name from contact leaving only the phone number for discharge services and distributed at the Great Island Boat Yard as well. Plasticized enlarged notices will be located at the above locations visible to arriving cars. M.Nahf will confer with K. Eiane regarding cost to the Town for plasticized notices and 200 brochures.

Updates:

Mission Statement 2016.

Since Goals and Objectives for 2016 that were approved at the 5/4 meeting, M. Nahf and W. Batson conferred together to reformat the report for added clarification and less overlap. The Commission approved the new format which will now be submitted to the Selectmen for their approval.

Resilience Planning for Sea Level Rise:

First workshop: **Road Engineering** on Tuesday, June 21, 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. It will entail the "what and the how" to maintain private gravel roads, and discuss implementing engineering projects on a five year plan, designed to inform road associations on a plan of action. Presenters will be Matt Craig and Jamie Fitch of Cumberland Soil and Water Conservation District. It will also include how to combat sea level rise surges, erosion control measures and tidal restrictions for culverts. M. Nahf

will coordinate the workshop and give a short introductory presentation of where we are today. It will be recorded on TV for later viewing and re-scribed for addition to HCC website.

D. Strachan will draft a power point introduction and W. Batson will continue to work out details for the workshops.

Road Associations:

Since there is no way of determining existing statutory road associations and loosely formed road maintenance groups in Harpswell, it was decided to request information by attendees on a sign-up sheet presented at the Non Resident Tax meeting and the two workshops. Information to include name of assoc., contact name, address and tel. # and number of members.

Beyond the Pesticide Ordinance:

- The data base for Waiver requests is being compiled by S. Vachon.
- The Landscape letter addressing how to comply with the new pesticide ordinance is in the works, plus word-of-mouth information for those landscapers working within the shoreline zone, is gathering momentum.
- A. Perry's Anchor article on "What Birds Eat" will appear in the next issue.

Invasive Species:

Brief discussion regarding HCC's role in working with HHLT and Harpswell Invasive Plant Partnership (HIPP.) Mechanical control of invasive plants is ongoing on 3 areas open to the public. Gary Fish, State Ecological Board for Pest Control, is being contacted give a future presentation on how to create a plan to manage invasives in wetland areas.

Adjourned: 2:50 PM

Meetings: 6/1, 6/15 at 1:30 PM.

Scribe: Ann Nemrow