

Town Lands Committee  
Town of Harpswell, Maine  
Minutes of July 15, 2024

Present: Ken Oehmig, Co-Chair, Tom Carr, Beth Eisman, Geoff Feiss, Ned Perry and Jane Smith  
Absent: Hope Hilton, Co-Chair, David Hackett, and Michael Mozzoni  
Guests: Jane Covey - Select Board Liaison

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm at the Holbrook Street Landing.

Secretary: Ned Perry agreed to serve as the Secretary Pro Tem for the meeting.

Minutes: The minutes for June 2024, after being amended to add “Giant’s Stairs” before “trail” on line 52, were approved.

• **Updates from last meeting**

- Storm damage to Town properties & Updates on repairs  
Ken reported Graveyard Point Landing had been repaired and was in good condition when he had visited on Saturday; however, Ned reported that when he visited the landing on Sunday, part of the landing had been washed out again. Ken said he would be in contact with Paul Plummer about the situation. The Giant’s Stairs trail is next on the list for reconstruction.
- Grant applications  
Ken reported that construction grant applications have been submitted to the Maine Department of Transportation for work at Lookout Point Landing and Garrison Cove Landing.

• **Old Business**

- Stewardship Coordinator & reports  
Geoff reported that he had no new reports to give to the Committee.
- Gift Acceptance Policy  
The latest draft was reviewed and several suggestions were made, including the following:
  - Information in lines 42 – 45 should be on the Town Gift Proposal Form not in policy.
  - Town Administration should be asked to identify a staff member to be responsible for keeping a file for each gift proposal and tracking the progress of the proposal.
  - Paragraph I.B. - Heading should be “Referral to Office of Codes Enforcement”.
  - Paragraph II.A. – Line 97, “consider public comments” should be inserted between “it” and “and”.
  - Geoff’s well drafted flow chart was discussed with minor editing suggestions being made.Ken said he would make the changes and incorporate a number of smaller editing suggestions, and circulate another draft before the next meeting. Geoff said he would do the same with the flow chart.

• **New Business:**

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- Review draft signage for GS directions to toilet at Johnson Field  
Ken distributed a design for a new sign to alert hikers that there is a toilet facility at Mackerel Cove. The committee proposed that the signs be posted at both end of the Giant's Stairs trail (Ocean Street and Washington Avenue) and by the picnic table on the Mackerel Cove town lot. Having received input from the committee, Ken will review the design with the Land Trust.
- Town Lands taking over land-related responsibilities from Rec.  
Ken introduced this topic and Tom Carr provided his perspective of the situation. A joint subcommittee between Town Lands and Rec. was discussed. Tom said he would reviewed the situation with Gina Caldwell and Ken will review it with Paul Plummer.
- Work day in August – Mackerel Cove, Graveyard, or Devil's Back  
The committee discussed the options for the location and the date of the work day. Mackerel Cove and/or Graveyard Landing were thought to be good locations for the August work day, with Devil's Back being better for a fall work day. It was reported that Devil's Back East will take a significant amount of work to restore. Ken committed to taking a survey to try to establish the best day for the work at Mackerel Cove and/or Graveyard Landing.
- Other  
There were no other topics raised by any committee member.

• **Ongoing Old Business**

- Letters to Pott's Point abutters.  
There was no discussion of this item.
- Workday: August 18 at Graveyard Landing or Mackerel Cove. (See above).
- Next regular meeting: August 19 at 5:00 pm at the Town Offices.

Adjourned 6:30 PM

Ned Perry, secretary pro tem