

## Conservation Commission Minutes

3/6/17

Present: Bob McKeagney, Dan Hogan, Megan Sheehan, Jody Meredith

Absent: Bret Bergst, Rick Foss-Lacey, Barbara Dee

Guest: Jessica Williams Energy and Recycling Committee

Minutes from 2/20/17 are delayed until next week. Megan will send out to members (secretary could not attend that meeting).

Megan reported that the City Council preferred our membership to be seven members even though we had requested a nine member commission. After some discussion, we agreed to try the seven member size.

### Open Space Inventory -

There will be a final meeting of this group on 3/7/17 in order to inform all participants of the plan to advocate for a full Open Space Planning process. To gain background information, Dan contacted the town planner of Falmouth who is in the process of developing an open space plan with the help of outside support. He also found that Cape Elizabeth did their plan in-house.

### Planning for From Brooks to Bay -

Bob, Bret and Fred are working on finalizing the grant process using the Freshwater Compensation Fund. Bob recently received a Freshwater Compensation Fund Report from Fred Dillon that has a lot of helpful information in it. He will get copies of that report to members of the Commission. All agreed that City Council Members need to be informed.

Bob developed a matrix on how to evaluate potential projects for the Commission. Members agreed that it seems like a very helpful tool.

The Conservation Law Foundation would like to be involved.

Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District will send two representatives to participate in planning.

The next meeting of the planning group for this event will focus on having the brochure ready, developing a publicity plan and finalizing guides for the stream walks.

We decided that during the stream walks, we will encourage participants to do clean up and will supply bags and gloves.

We discussed getting gift certificates from local businesses to raffle off during the forum - both as a way to generate interest and as a way to gather email addresses

Jody will search for photographs of the streams from the Historical Society.

Bob will get the mailing list from the Planning Department to notify residents who are near the streams about the forum.

To access the CBEP funds that we received for the forum, Jody will contact Greg L'Heureux, South Portland Finance Director.

### Additional Items -

Dan is monitoring City Council agendas to see when conservation related topics are on the agenda. He noted that Old Joe's Pond is on the workshop list, but will not come up in the near future.