

Conservation Commission Minutes
February 9, 2016

Present: Jim Tasse, Mitch Wacksman, Zach Matzkin, Mark Fleming, Jeremy Gabrielson, Marti Blair, Planner Maureen O'Meara

Guests: Representatives of Cape Woods Association; Suzanne McGinn

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Citizen comments. There was discussion with representatives of Cape Woods Condominium Association regarding a proposed trail connection from Dyer Woods to Oakhurst Road. No action would be taken without willing cooperation from property owners. The Commission would be willing to meet with the condo association, either in a separate meeting or as part of a Conservation Commission meeting.

Options for allowing land to be used for a trail include making a gift, donating an easement, agreeing to a license.

2. Suzanne McGinn of Cape Elizabeth Land Trust asked about a co-leader for the Crosstown Walk on Saturday, June 4. Jeremy Gabrielson will represent the Conservation Commission. Other members may join in.

Cindy Krum will be attending next month's meeting as the CELT representative.

In Robinson Woods II there is a lot of heavy bike rutting on the CELT trail. She asked if the Commission has noticed issues on town trails. We will need to keep an eye on this when the weather is warmer.

3. The minutes of January 12, 2016 were approved unanimously, with the following change: Suzanne McGinn offered a correction on item #1: CELT would like to use the "reject" Crosstown Trail signs as prizes, not for fund-raising. They did not ask for half of the signs, but did take them. Because of sharpness, they are not appropriate for certain uses.

4. Greenbelt Trails budget for FY 2017. In the Public Works budget there is a line item of \$25,000 for Greenbelt Trails. The Planner reviewed outlays from the FY 2016 allotment and potential expenditures for FY 2017. A change to the description of the account was suggested: "This account is used for improvements and maintenance of the Greenbelt trail network."

Motion: To request \$25,000 allocation in the Council FY 2017 budget for Greenbelt Trails.

Passed unanimously

5. Greenbelt priority: Pollack Creek to the Spurwink River. The old bridge has been removed. We are waiting for the final report from Sebago Technics, then we can discuss next steps.

6. Greenbelt priority: Gullcrest Outer Loop improvements. The contract was signed to add a third board and further sections.

7. Greenbelt priority: Dyer Woods to Oakhurst. A letter was sent to property owners who might be affected. The Planner received correspondence from some owners.

8. Schedule annual Robinson Woods II easement review with CELT. Baseline Documentation and any recent reviews and reports were requested. Maine Coast Heritage Trust is the Holder and monitors the easement. This meeting will be scheduled for March 7.

9. The review of uses of the Greenbelt Trail was scheduled for Monday, March 7.

10. General trail management: Two Lights Trail. An adjacent property owner was upset that people were exiting the trail via their property rather than using the trail. The Planner provided signs and posted an exit sign. The wood on the exit trail was removed by the landowner.

11. Executive Session. At 8:54 the Conservation Commission voted to go into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition/disposition. At 9:20 the Executive Session ended.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Next meeting: March 7, 2016