



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of June 5, 2017

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Sarah Boudreau, Steve DeCrosta, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Karen Jacobsen, Sue Shane, Nancy Lightbody via teleconference

Also present: Theo Holtwijk, Director of Long-Range Planning Town of Falmouth; Eric Topper, Director of Education for Maine Audubon; Kimberly Darling, Energy and Sustainability Town of Falmouth; Mary Cerullo, Associate Director of Friends of Casco Bay; Andy Jones, Toxics Action Center; Clare Loughlin, Connecticut College and Toxics Action Center; Madeleine Fenderson, Connecticut College; Richard Sweeney and Carolyn Read-Sweeney, residents of Falmouth, Maine

Review of Minutes: Minutes of the May 1, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved.

Proposed Village Green Landscape Plan: Theo Holtwijk reviewed the history of the Village Green property and then presented the landscape proposal being developed by Town of Falmouth staff and Ocean View management. Theo addressed issues of signage, seating, and plant choices. He also highlighted the opportunity to use this property as an educational showpiece for use of naturalized plant choices in landscape planning. Eric Topper spoke in support of this landscape proposal and its value as a native horticultural education opportunity.

Water Quality/Erosion Subcommittee: Using a power point presentation, Mary Cerullo reviewed the history of the Friends of Casco Bay eighteen-year program, Bayscaping, a pesticide/fertilizer control program based on scientific data. The program's focus is public education about beneficial lawn care practices and control of excessive use of pesticides and fertilizers that cause damage to the bay and its marine wildlife. Mary reviewed a variety of town ordinances that aim to control the use of pesticides and fertilizers.

Pesticide Restriction Ordinance: Committee members were asked to summarize their views regarding the goals of this ordinance effort, the implications of information gathered from the three public forums, and ideas for next steps. The general consensus was that an ordinance is preferred to a recommendation, working in partnership with the public continues to be the goal, education is paramount, and focusing on the damage done to the Casco Bay presents a positive, unifying direction. The committee agreed to meet on June 23, 2017, to continue work on drafting this ordinance and in preparation will review a summary of ideas related to pesticide and fertilizer controls.

Subcommittee Reports: No action

Other Business/Other Ideas: No action



The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Karen Jacobsen