TOWN OF KENNEBUNK

CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING 6/6/2016

MINUTES

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

On June 6, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 306 of the Town Hall, Ellen Wolf, Chairman of the Conservation and Open Space Planning Commission (COSPC) for the Town of Kennebunk, called to order the Regular Meeting.

Present: Ellen Wolf, Chair; Nick Branchina, Vice Chair; Jen Shack

Next meeting: June 20 2016 @ 6:30pm

Next meetings: Monday July 11 2016 @ 6:30 pm
Monday August 1 2016 @6:30 pm

II. **MINUTES** The minutes of May 16 2016 were accepted as read.

III. **KENNEBUNK RIVER WATERSHED**

A. We are waiting for the Town Manager to write a letter to the Managers of Lyman, Arundel and Kennebunkport to discuss together the possibility of jointly cleaning up the pollution of the Kennebunk River, whose borders they all share.

B. There will be grant money available thru the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission to create an initial plan.

C. There is currently many years of data that documents the increasing counts of ecoli bacteria, the changes in oxygen levels and in water temperature. This data has been collected by citizen scientists from Kennebunk, analyzed by Nelson Labs in Kennebunk and analyzed and reported by the Wells Reserve, Maine Healthy Beaches and the Kennebunk and Mousam River Alliance.

**Wolf will continue to urge the Town Manager to invite the other town stakeholders asap to meet to discuss working together to clean up the Kennebunk River

IV. **PEST MANAGEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**Shack and Wolf will work on an 'Alert' about septic systems for National Septic Systems Week in September

**Wolf will find out the tax letter deadline

V. COSPC PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER TOWN COMMITTEES

A. Economic Development Committee

1. Recent meeting presentations were about the Mousam River dams
2. Much open ended time presenting pros & cons of removing the dams
3. No closure on any of the ideas.
4. It appears that the EDC chairperson is open to discussion (see #6,7 & 8 below)
5. Branchina told the participants that he was "glad to see so much interest in the environment and that COSPC has 4 vacancies."

**Wolf will invite the gentleman who gave Branchina a business card, to our next meeting.

**Branchina will find out about the lowered dams on a river in Manchester New Hampshire.

B. Comprehensive Plan Revision Committee

1. A brief review of meetings: 5/25/16, cancelled; 6/7/16 rescheduled to West Kennebunk Firehouse for presentation from Senator Eves; 6/22/16 was to present proposed revisions to the public, but there aren't any to propose plus it is the Town Picnic; 7/6/2106 is tentatively scheduled;
2. 7/20/16 scheduled for COSPC 101 presentation by Branchina

**Branchina will cc Shack and Wolf in email to the Chair of the Comp. Plan Rev. Comm. about concerns the lack of productive meetings, the lack of collaboration with the Board of Selectmen, the Planning or Zoning Boards, the lack of participation by other Town Committees.

3. Mat Eddy has presented the Town's TIF priorities to the Committee
4. One of these priorities is to spend $250,00 in TIF funds for a storm water run off study on Rte 1-South .
5. Given the extent of the environmentally sensitive area targeted for development, the question for COSPC is: are the benefits from taxes more important than the preservation of the extensive wetlands?
6. The Southern Maine Planning and Development Committee states that 'one beach house is equal to 6 commercial businesses on Rte 1.'. In other words, the beach house generates more taxes than 6 businesses in that area.
7. People own the beach houses because of (wait for this) the beaches.
8. Therefore our investments should be: clean up the Mousam and Kennebunk Rivers so they don't continue to pollute ocean waters; analyze the many years of testing the water quality on our ocean and river waters, and their tributaries, and require Central Main Power to stop spraying all their land in Kennebunk which lies on our watershed and to mechanically remove unwanted vegetation.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Site Plans

1. Bayberry Road proposal: COSPC concern is maintenance of embankment vegetation.
2. Wolf will write Planning Board of this concern

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Ellen Wolf, Chair

Kennebunk Conservation and Open Space Planning Commission

Minutes Approved: Ellen R Wolf Date: July 5 2016