

ROCKPORT CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Ted Skowronski, Chairman; Steve McAllister; Jim Chalfant; Richard Podolsky; Sally Cook; Bob Peabody, Rockport Town Manager; Bob Kennedy, observer.

Meeting called to order at 8:08 am.

MINUTES OF LAST TWO MEETINGS: Sally made a motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Jim seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Ted seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

ANNUAL EASEMENT BOUNDARY-MONITORING WALKS: All agreed that the date best suited for these walks will be Friday, December 9, after RCC's monthly meeting. The YMCA walk will begin at 9:30 am. The walk around the Pettit property on Bear Hill will begin at 11 am. Sally will send letters to the YMCA and the Ralph family notifying them of our plans.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ted brought copies of RCC's October expense report from Virginia Lindsey. This shows that the unexpended balance of RCC's budget for the fiscal year is \$6,724.16.

WORKSHOP ON ROCKPORT HARBOR/GOODIE'S BEACH WATER POLLUTION -- DISCUSSION: The date for this workshop has been set for Thursday, November 10, in the Richardson Room, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Attending will be: Members of the Selectboard; Members of the Financial Committee and RCC members; Bob Peabody, Town Manager; Steve Beveridge, Director of Public Works; Tom Ford, Town Planner; Scott Bickford, Town Code Enforcement Officer; Abbie Leonard, Harbormaster.

Ted outlined the agenda he and Bob envision for this meeting, which will include: 1) Outline of the the pollution problem and information gathered so far; 2) Recommendations for what the next steps should be; 3) Assignment of responsibilities; 4) timeline, with defined outcomes, action plans and dates to completion. All agreed that, after the initial presentation, this workshop would focus on recommended action and planning. All agreed that it would be best to keep attendance limited to those who would be involved in plans for addressing the pollution. Jim will invite Lynda Clancy to cover this first workshop for Village Soup. Then, later this year, RCC will present another meeting about the Harbor pollution and the monitoring and clean-up efforts. This meeting will be for the general public, with specific invitations to members of local organizations such as the Garden Club and the Boat Club, and any others involved in summer activities at the Harbor.

Bob Kennedy has put together a 15-page report, including charts and photographs for RCC's presentation. He has sent copies around to all members. Ted will organize the paperwork for the meeting and set up for the power-point presentation.

Discussion followed with Bob on details of the RCC presentation. It was decided that we would assign the names of the responsible parties for the specific recommendations, i.e. the Rockport CEO for

identifying the external inputs into the West Street wetland; Public Works for delineating storm drains and surface flow, and so forth.

It was agreed that we would emphasize that the RCC would continue to monitor the Goose River, Lily Pond Stream and Winter Street stream, because of the requirement for more data and for the necessity of quick, flexible response to rain events. The RCC will schedule a meeting in early 2012 to establish a water monitoring strategy for the next season.

We reviewed the list of the Town's tax defaulted properties with the Town Manager, Bob Peabody, and offered our opinions on the disposition of each one.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Cook, Secretary