

Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2018

Present: Ellen Scull (Presiding), Eleanor Park, Francine Mayhew, Ann Judd, Kristin Hutchins-
Select Board Liaison

Absent: Terry Powers, Jane Ayres, Ann Ratcliff, Susan Allen

Rhoades Park Budget The Rhoades budget will need a few alterations to estimate the changes in fees to do with irrigation maintenance, water/sewer, and Park and Barn Maintenance. The consensus of the group was for the warrant request to include funding for a new road sign and kiosk information sign, because the 20 year old signs have fallen apart. Ann felt that both signs could be done for \$1500 total and that could be listed and explained in the Park Maintenance line item.

Tree Business Eleanor reported that the power company had done a small amount of pruning on the Hodge tree on the High Road, but they are proving difficult to contact for a meeting unless it is in response to a problem with the tree regarding adjacent power lines. Ann had spoken to the Town Manager about tree removal of the Hodge tree and he would check with the Arborist who would win the job for the High Road cemetery trees to get a second bid. Kristin mentioned that the Select Board does not want to go beyond the regularly budgeted amount for tree work. This triggered a discussion about whether the Commission should change its budget request (approved in October but not yet submitted) to include funds for tree removal after July 1st 2019. Ann will check with the Town Manager about the second bid, and the Commission can decide about the warrant. The Newman tree on the High Road will be getting cabled, and Mrs. Newman will partner with the Tree Fund to pay half of the expense.

Rhoades Park Construction Update Ann reported that the building has 4 walls and the roof is going up. Emera has been very difficult to work with to hook up power on the site, but progress has been made and hopefully electricity will be restored soon. The parking area is being graded, initial landscaping of trees will be installed shortly, but the driveway entrance will not be finished until spring. We are on schedule.

2019 June Event The Commission decided that **Friday, June 28th** would be the day to have the **Charlotte Rhoades Park Open House** to showcase the new park. The time will be 2:30-5:30pm. All of the Conservation Commission members are expected to help host. We will have the high school jazz band there to liven the festivities. More details to be developed.

Plastic Bag Ordinance There will be a Special Town Meeting on November 13th at 630pm at the Firehouse for voters to accept the two ordinances to ban plastic bags and Styrofoam containers. All are encouraged to attend.

Next meeting: To be determined