

Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission

Minutes of meeting

June 7, 2022

- I In attendance: Kathleen Slack, Jane Ayres, Jim Geary (zoom), Ellen Scull, Francine Mayhew, Eleanor Park, Ann Judd, Elena Scotti; Absent: Jeff Dutra, Terry Powers. Guest: Aimee Williams
- II The minutes of the May 2, 2022 meeting were approved.
- III Treasurer's report – Jane will move some Tree Fund money from the Savings Account to the checking account in anticipation of paying tree planting bills at our Town parks.
- IV Veterans Park – Four new flowering crab trees have been planted as replacement for the failing Hawthorne trees, paid by Tree Fund money. Ellen, Jane, Ann and Ann will be meeting with Frost Farms (Melissa) to discuss summer care of the Park (Frost Farms does maintenance) and to decide what other improvements can be planned with the Town budget allowance of \$4000 approved for 2022.
- V Rhoades Park – Two new picnic tables are needed and will be built locally in time for the start of the season. Fencing repair is needed on two panels of fence that blew down over the winter. The panels were installed nearly 25 years ago and are part of an aging group of 10 panels that will most likely need replacement soon. Ann J. will begin a discussion with Allen Farm Fence for a bid and timeline. An open house for Southwest Community citizens is scheduled for Friday, June 24th. The park grounds and gardens are being cleaned up and planted for the summer. The annual butterfly release will take place on July 28th. Tickets can be purchased through the website, by mail, or at the Southwest Harbor Chamber of Commerce. There will be 2 sessions like last year to reduce the overall numbers of guests and alleviate parking.
- VI Chris' Pond – Adjacent to the pond, the Letcher house, now owned by Maine Coast Heritage Trust, will be scheduled for demolition. Volunteers are needed to help clean up the property, and Misha Mytar will let us know the schedule.
- VII Public Rights of Way – Kathleen reported that she is visiting our public ROW's and taking photos and creating descriptions of the locations to continue to protect their established use. She will visit with the Town's Code Enforcement Officer on August 2nd.
- VIII Other business – Over the coming months the Commission will prepare a document akin to By-laws or Guidelines so that the Selectboard understands our role in Town Government, and we also can be guided by that governance. New Selectboard member Natasha Johnson will be our liaison to the Selectboard and will attend meetings when she is able to.

Next Meeting: Tuesday August 9, 2022 at 4pm at the Town Office and on ZOOM