

Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, February 7th Meeting

- I **In attendance:** Jane Ayres, Francine Mayhew, Ellen Scull, Eleanor Park, Valerie Bodner, Ann Judd, Ann Ratcliff, Elena Scotti, Terry Powers, Kristin Hutchins, Kathleen Slack; Guests: Misha Mytar, Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Natasha Johnson (SWHPB Liaison), Ms. Piper, Islander; Excused J. Geary. Absent: Jeff Dutra.

The agenda was adopted as presented; no voting members had a Conflict of Interest. Minutes of January 17th, 2023 were moved by Francine and seconded by Ellen. Vote unanimous to approve.

- II **Treasurer's Report.** Jane had received a statement for the Rhoades Endowment Fund at the Maine Community Foundation and reported that contributions to the endowment totaled about \$356,000. She has received some January donations and processed a few bills; activity is low at this time of year.
- III **Tree Warden Update** A few donations have come in for the Tree Program. Eleanor will check with the arborist to confirm tree work to take place in March.
- IV **Buffering Standards** Ann Ratcliff read the Buffering Standards of the Land Use ordinance to the group and reported that she had been in to see John Larsen, the Code Enforcement Officer. It was decided that it would be in everyone's best interest to attend some Planning Board meetings while also finding a time to discuss Buffering options for possible changes with the Planning Board and CEO. Elena, Terry, Eleanor, Kathleen, and Ann will attend the Planning Board meeting on February 21st in person or by zoom.
- V **Chris' Pond** Natasha informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen would like to hear about the Chris' Pond project and intended to put it on the agenda for their February 28th meeting. It was decided that up to date pictures and a one-page synopsis of the project would need to be put in the packet for the Selectmen. Kristin offered to help Misha with this. Jane, Kathleen, Elena, Eleanor, Ann J., Ann R. and Kristin will attend or zoom the Selectboard meeting, and perhaps other Commission members will be available to be there as well. Ann Ratcliff expressed thanks and appreciation to Natasha from the Conservation Commission for her help and advice.
- VI **25th Anniversary at Charlotte Rhoades Park** Ann J discussed with Commission members ways to celebrate the 25th anniversary this coming summer. Holding the June open house for SWH residents, putting out a special banner at the Park entrance, participation in the Flamingo Parade, and writing an article for the local paper(s) were suggested.

Jane moved and Francine seconded to adjourn meeting. All in favor.

Next Meeting: March 7th, 530pm at the Town Office and on Zoom