

Southwest Harbor Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

In attendance: Ellen Scull, Eleanor Park, Francine Mayhew, Jane Ayres, Valerie Bodner; Via Zoom – Ann Judd; Excused: Jim Geary, Kristin Hutchins, Kathleen Slack, Elena Scotti, Terry Powers; Absent: Jeff Dutra.

I Review and approval of minutes Jane moved, and Francine seconded to accept the minutes. All in favor.

II Treasurer's Report Jane reported that \$4,280 in donations had been received since August, for the Tree Fund. The Rhoades Park Endowment has received \$425.00 in donations. Funds in the amount of \$5,000 been transferred from the checking to the savings account to take advantage of the favorable interest rate.

III Tree Warden Report Eleanor is waiting on the arborist for scheduling of annual work.

IV Rhoades Park Valerie reported that the Park has been winterized with water turned off, benches and signs stored, plants cut back and brush down on the beds. Public Works took away several bags of leaves/litter. The parking lot is now closed for the winter. Residents can walk in during the daytime, but the entrance will not be plowed.

V Chris' Pond Update General clean-up was done at the Pond by the skating group. Trash was removed, the broken windows on the shed were covered, and wood has been brought in for the outdoor fire pit. The Commission will to meet with Misha Mytar from Maine Coast Heritage Trust before presenting any updated project to the Select Board.

VI Buffering Standards Tabled until a future meeting.

VII Membership and Chair Position Jim Geary has stepped down as Commission Chair and has requested to be moved from Voting Membership to Associate Membership. Jane made a motion to request that the Select Board approve Jim as an Associate Member. Ellen seconded. All in favor. There are presently six voting members of the Commission, with room for one more voting member.

Town Manager Marilyn Lowell has encouraged the Commission to elect a new Chair as soon as possible. For now, Commission members are taking turns presiding at meetings. Jane Ayres, presided at the November meeting, Eleanor Park presided at the December meeting and Kathleen Slack will preside at the January meeting.

NEXT MEETING: January 17th, Tuesday, at 4:00pm **Note time is earlier because of Budget meeting taking place at 530pm