Conservation Commission Minutes, July 12, 2023

In-Person Meeting at the Town Office, with Zoom Video Conferencing

Commissioners Present: Neil Cambridge, Linda Garat, Catherine Lerme, Theo Pratt

Commissioners not in attendance: Leslie Spear, Henry Spencer, Sondra Wallace

Associate Member present: Sally Merchant

**I.**  **Call to Order**. Linda Garat, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 5:10PM.

**II. Election of Officers.** After some discussion it was decided - primarily due to the fact that three Commissioners were not in attendance - that the election will be postponed until the next STCC meeting. (Neil Cambridge made a motion to postpone, Linda seconded it, and it was unanimously approved).

**III. Adjustments to Agenda.** None.

**IV. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes (June 14, 2023).** A motion was made by Catherine Lerme to approve the Minutes, seconded by Theo Pratt, then unanimously approved.

**V. Old Business**

A. Update concerning Cline and Smith properties. Catherine said it appears that Jeff Smith would like the sale of his property to be completed more quickly than originally envisaged. A joint STCC/Select Board meeting to discuss this will take place on August 9.

B. Update on Community Resilience Committee. Neil confirmed that the solar proposal was submitted on July 7. The Committee had been meeting on a weekly basis, but will take a break until September, when the question will be what to tackle next - perhaps another solar project? He added that it might be a good idea to host an open workshop, to determine what the public wants.

C. Update on greenhouse gas project. No report.

D. Update on Knox County Conservation Commissions Working Group (KCCC-WG). Sally Merchant reported that the group last met on June 27, with attendees from Camden (Rebecca Jacobs), Owls Head (Kathryn DerMarderosian), Rockport (Meggan Dwyer), St. George (Ken Oelberger), South Thomaston (Sally and Sondra Wallace), and Thomaston (Peter Mitchell, Matt Bonner). It was agreed that the group will meet quarterly, on the second Thursday of the month at 7PM, via Zoom. Beginning in September, there will be an agenda for each meeting, specifying the amount of time allotted for each topic.

At the June 27 KCCC-WG meeting Sondra Wallace stated that the STCC is interested in collaborating on a speaker series, including on solar and solid waste. Ken Oelberger mentioned that the St. George CC is organizing a solar fair, tentatively to be held on August 12; and Kathryn DerMarderosian said that Owls Head would like to screen a documentary on dark skies and light pollution, possibly in September.

**VI. New Business.** None.

**VII.** **Correspondence.** None.

**VIII.** **Items for next Agenda**. Election of Officers; joint STCC/Select Board meeting on August 9 to discuss Smith property.

**IX. Adjourn.** A motion was made by Catherine at 5:35PM to adjourn, seconded by Neil, and unanimously approved.

*STCC Minutes approved on August 9, 2023*.