

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF JANUARY 3, 2008.

PRESENT: Duncan, Ellis (chair), Small, Hewitt. EXCUSED: Elfast, Bracy, Coggeshall. OTHERS: Chris Leavitt, Anita Siegenthaler.

MINUTES: Amended by J. Falla as follows; **Under 1. Wetlands** lines 4-6 read... "town having unforested wetlands larger than 10 acres which are not designated as Natural Resource Protection under Shoreland Zoning. They should be so designated according to state and local guidelines." **Correction**, These wetlands should be classified under Shoreland Zoning, not NRPDs. **Under 5. Trail Stewards**, "John Falla recommended that Wayne Judkins, Parks and Recreation Director, be kept in the communications loop regarding the trails", not "be part of the training". **Minutes were approved as amended.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Wetlands Linda conferred with Tim Polky about newly identified wetlands which are larger than 10 acres. So far nine such areas which were not previously classified under shoreland zoning have been found on the new tax maps. We will walk or snowshoe two of them soon; one is to the rear of Marge Cooks property, the other East of #131 in Smalleytown. Tim is preparing maps for us. His is the only computer which can download the layers.
2. Snowshoe Tracking Walk meets Sunday January 20, 1 p.m. at the Town Forest Kiosk. Call Duke for more information. Jean will put an announcement in local papers.
3. Treasury. Acknowledgement and thanks for checks were received from both MACC and from Friends of Midcoast.
4. Our Town, Our Land. The order of topics has been revised.
 1. Jan. 17, "Wetlands We Used To Fill"
 2. Feb. 28, "Looking At Land, the Monhegan Model"
 3. Mar. 20, "Land Meets Water."

Friends of St George will provide labor, set-up the meeting place, and they will provide food and drink. CC will arrange visual aids and projection. We meet Wed. Jan 9, at 3:30 in Town Hall basement to complete plans for the presentation on wetlands.

We seek an alternative speaker for the second meeting in case weather prevents Doug Boynton from getting off Monhegan.

5. Retreat and Training for CC. Meet to plan this event 4-6 p.m., Jan 16, in the town office basement.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Wind power. Planning Board considers regulation of wind turbines Jan 8.

ADJOURNED. NEXT MEETING 7:30 AM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt (Sec'y)

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2008

PRESENT: Coggeshall, Duncan, Hewitt, Ellis (Chair)

EXCUSED: Elfast. Small, Bracy

OTHERS: Rob Stenger, Anita Siegenthaler, Chris Leavitt

MINUTES: Correction to minutes of February 7, the following was omitted from last month's minutes under item 1. 'Wetlands'. **MOVED: SECONDED AND CARRIED.** That the Conservation Commissions unanimously supports the town designating those areas of wetland in excess of ten (10) acres as shore land zone in order to conform with State regulations and to protect this valuable resource for the town's future. Minutes were accepted as corrected.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Wetlands discussion.** Polky and Leavitt have had two open hearings re the initiative to designate nine newly identified wetland areas as shore land zone. Of the nine, eight will be submitted for the town's approval at the annual meeting. One will remain as it is for this year with further action expected in 2009.

2. **Retreat** for CC. May 2, 2008 is under consideration.

3. **Kiosks.** Rob Stenger suggests pamphlets be printed on glossy paper which is more durable and water resistant than regular printer paper.

Road signs were delivered to Augusta and should be in place within the month.

CC plans a workshop session Wed. 3/12 in Town Office to determine final content of notices to be printed for Kiosks. Linda will contact Bill Goodwill re Audobon Societys plans for the Kiosks. Duke will ask J. Skoglund what the St. George Historical Society would like to submit.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Winter Film Series.

Monhegan Model Feb. 28. 30-35 people showed up for a film and discussion on how MISCA and several other community efforts to conserve coastal Maine came about.

Doug Boynton from Monhegan answered questions about Monhegan's affordable housing program for Islanders.

March 20 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office -- Round Table on Coastal Pollution. Using film and discussion Sherm Hoyt will address relationships between commercial fisheries, water quality, invasive species, rising water levels, non point source pollution. Joss to handle audiovisuals, Anita public relations, Jean to invite members of other town committees and boards. Duke will welcome the audience and Georgie Davis will introduce Sherm.

Future Events. We will collaborate with Friends of St. George to present a Summer Conservation Film Series so that seasonal residents may participate. Suggestions for summer topics include, re-running the best of 2008's presentations, and/or "The End of

Suburbia”, Power of Community, “Beginning With Habitat” as well as collaboration on Energy Independence Day. Films for 2009 will be screened in September. Suggestions are welcome.

2. **C.C. to participate in the World Ocean Day Celebration** at St. George School on Friday, June 6. Our focus will be the marsh adjacent to school.

3. **Town Clean-Up May 3**, from 8 a.m. Meet at Town Office. Notice to go in the Town Newsletter, Courier, Free Press after checking with St. George Day committee re possibility of their having a fund raiser at the same time [Hewitt], and J. Barstow [Duncan]

4. **Annual Action Plan.** Jean met with Lee Cote and Town Manager to review CC’s action plan for 2007 and outline targets for 2008. Details at our next meeting once Town approves.

ADJOURNED. NEXT MEETING Thursday April 3, 2008. 7:30 a.m. in the Town Office

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt (Sec’y)

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF April 3, 2008

PRESENT: Coggeshall, Duncan, Bracy, Small, Hewitt,

EXCUSED: Elfast, Ellis

OTHERS: Rob Stenger, Anita Siegenthaler, and Chris Leavitt

MINUTES: Approved as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Wetland discussion. Deferred

2. Retreat. Randy Benthien suggests the next best time for retreat will be sometime in Oct. or early November. We will schedule this when when all members can be present.

3. Kiosks. Duncan, Hewitt and Stenger met to decide how kiosks will look. Four information sources will appear on the front side of each kiosk: a. Seasonally changing postings regarding flora and fauna on laminated posters. b. A site map including points of interest and foot trails with GPS points. c. Some historical background and d. tri-fold pamphlets, which hikers may take with them and return to the kiosk. Pamphlets will include site map, photos of significant locations and commentary.

Rob Stenger is designing the pamphlets and other written material. He and Duke will GPS trail points later this month.

Linda Duncan reported Bill Goodwill was happy with the offer of space on the back of kiosks for Midcoast Audubon's use. He will get back to us after speaking with his group. Fred Morrel was mentioned as a possible trail steward.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Talk on Coastal Pollution. Sherm Hoyt's talk and power point presentation last month was excellent. We will co sponsor [with F/O St. Geo.] a repeat presentation this summer for the benefit of seasonal residents. Date to be determined by Friends of St. George and Sherm. Roller Shades are needed for the six conference room windows in order to view PowerPoint and movies during the summer months.

Jean reported that the newly established St. George Watershed Coalition (brainchild of GRLT) is planning a two-month Summer Celebration of the River featuring activities and presentations sponsored by organizations throughout the watershed. The CC and Friends of St. George will submit Sherm Hoyt's talk on Coastal Pollution [expanded to include South Thomaston] as part of this series. CC also expects to sponsor a repeat hike and historical talk with Jim Skoglund at Fort Point.

2. Roadside cleanup May 3. Rain or Shine. Starts 8 A.M. at the Town Office. Workers should come choose their assignment. Plastic buckets for glass and trash bags will be available. Again the Balduc Correctional Facility will provide manpower on Friday to clear the section of Rt. #131 between Wiley's corner and the South Thomaston line. St. George Day Committee will host breakfast beginning at 7 A.M. Transfer Station offers free dump services to St. George residents on Saturday only. No word yet as to whether Monhegan Boat will participate in the clean up. Signs advertising the cleanup will go up on April 23.

3. Notice of Training Sessions.

- a.) April 30, 4-7:30 P.M. "Vernal Pools" in Falmouth sponsored by MEACC.
- b.) May 3, The MEACC annual meeting in conjunction with the Maine Land Conservation Conference meets at Brunswick High School. Second largest such conf in the country.

4. Collaboration with Herring Gut (HG). Toni Small reported that HG, Jackson Library and St. George School will celebrate world Oceans Day on Friday June 6, from Noon till 2 P.M. in the auditorium. HG students have presentations on Oyster propagation. The "River of Words" project has generated 97 student poems some of which will be on display. Annette Nagel of GRLT will provide a poster/Arial photo of The Marsh's watershed with pour points and property lines superimposed as well as 75' and 250' setbacks.

A shoreline cleanup is in the planning stages. The date in June and specific site have not been chosen.

5. Alewives: John Shea hopes to see Alewives re-established in the Marsh. We agree it would be a great project. A meeting on "Restoration and Monitoring of Alewives in the ST. George River" with Theo Willis from University of Maine is scheduled April 21, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the Warren Public Library. Sponsor is GRLT. Call John 372-6213 or GRLT for more information.

Adjourned. Next meeting Thursday May 1, 2008

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt, Sec'y.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES MAY 1, 2008.

CC PRESENT: Duncan, Ellis, Hewitt, and Small

OTHERS: Lee Cote, Chris Leavitt, Anita Siegenthaler

MINUTES: Correction, date of the last CC meeting was April 3, not March 3 as reported. Minutes were approved as corrected.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Wetlands.** Strengths and weaknesses of various satellite mapping programs relative to significant habitat for migratory birds and waterfowl was discussed. No conclusions were drawn.

2. **Open Space.** Concern was raised about protecting open spaces (in addition to shorefront and forested wetlands). Some means of assuring protection of scenic views and historically important artifacts such as 'grout piles' include; legislation, identification in the Town Charter, listing in the Comprehensive Plan, various voluntary bequests to create protected parcels beyond those already defined by State and local legislation. CC members agree it is important, as the town becomes more densely populated, to consider protection of certain additional scenic and historical places. We welcome thoughts and suggestions.

3. **Kiosks.** Rob Stenger (who has an appointment in VA. today) has completed GPS description of waypoints for Town Forest and Fort Point Trails. He continues work on instructional pamphlets.

4. **Roadside Cleanup.** Saturday May 3. Signs are up. Monhegan Boat has donated tickets for a Puffin Cruise to helpers who register for the cleanup. Thank you Jim Barstow. Fred Carey has volunteered the use of his truck to collect trash bags.

5. **Alewives:** No report on May 19, meeting about the status of Alewife restoration in the St. George. John Shea may know about this?

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Election of Officers.** Moved: For 2008-2009 to continue with Duke Ellis as Chair and with Jean Hewitt as secretary. Seconded. Carried unanimously.

2. **Sherm Hoyt Roundtable.** Sherm will host a repeat lecture/power point discussion about the Georges River and Weskeag wetland on Friday July 11. Town Office (7 or 7:30 pm?) for the benefit of seasonal residents and those who missed his excellent discussion last March. Watch the community calendar for details.

3. **MEACC Annual Meeting.** Saturday May 3, scheduled in Brunswick HS at noon.

4. **Collaboration with Herring Gut (HG).** Toni Small reported on activities to be undertaken collaboratively by St. George School, HG, the CC and Georges River Tidewater Assn (GRTA). HG has submitted and been approved for a \$2500.00 Maine Community Foundation grant to support a series of events focused on watershed conservation in St. George. Events will include; a Safari Walk in the Marsh on June 5; World Oceans Day celebration and exhibits June 6th between 12-2 pm at St.GS, and a Science Outing on the Laura B on Wednesday, June 11 during which 7th and 8th grade students will conduct water chemistry and biological testing off Port Clyde. Faculty includes instructors from St.GS., HG and GRTA.

5. **Bridges and Trail Work.** Rob Stenger proposed (via Duke) a work party on Sunday,

June 8 to install bridges across Fort Point Trail Stream and bogs, possibly do some trail work too. Chris Leavitt noted that the water in question is a true stream, and a permit for placing the bridge will be required by DEP (Contact Colin Clark 287-7810). It is "permit by rule" and not complicated to achieve. Selectmen must also approve the plan. Duke suggested using cedar instead of fir for the footing, as it is more durable and readily available from the Town Forest., It is important to include Fort Point trail stewards Pat Kamlin and Ann Boover in the planning. For additional assistance Scouts in be enlisted(contact Josh McPhail).

6. Georges River Watershed Coalition. (GRWC). Jean gave a brief history of the Coalition which was formed under the aegis of GRLT. Representatives of numerous public, private and voluntary agencies in the watershed have met four times during the last year to see how best to promote and assure the wellbeing of the watershed. A mission statement was hammered out, agencies described their activities and concerns, and agreed to act in concert in so far as it is possible to promote understanding of our common link, the watershed's health. It is an open coalition, no agencies are excluded. Of the initial sixteen or so invited participants, most have attended at least one of the meetings.

The first joint effort will be a Summer 2008 "Celebration of the Watershed". During July and August coalition members will each sponsor river-related activities at different locations in the watershed to increase awareness of the value of the river to our communities. For example, GRTA's two contributions will include a hike/lecture/picnic (in conjunction with our CC) to Fort Point on July 14, and a tubing expedition between Rt. #1 Bridge and Thomaston Landing on August 2. The Coalition led by Jay Astle at GRLT (594-5166) will provide publicity and a comprehensive listing of the events.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Hewitt, Secretary

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COMMISSION MINUTES JUNE 3, 2008.

CC PRESENT: Duncan, Ellis, Hewitt. Small. Excused: Elfast, Bracy.

OTHERS: Chris Leavitt, Anita Siegenthaler

MINUTES: May 1, 2008 Correction, Georgie Davis was present, A. Siegenthaler was not. Minutes accepted as corrected.

ANNOUNCEMENT: John Shea would like someone to collaborate with him on a project to restore Alewives to the marsh.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Open Space.** The CC recognizes that a long-term plan for St. George should include provisions for protecting not only wetlands but also certain open meadows and pastures. Means of protecting them include sale of development rights, and by conservation easements and other deed restrictions. Farmland is an increasingly valuable asset for aesthetic considerations and for growing produce locally.
2. **Kiosks.** Rob Stenger is GPS mapping the trails.
3. **Sherm's presentation on Friday, July 11** at the Town Office is confirmed. Joss on the projector. Duke is MC. Friends of St Geo. organize PR. Duke will put up signs.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Thank you for road cleanup.** Linda Duncan has already thanked the Balduc facility and submitted a letter to The Courier. Monhegan Boat was extremely generous in their support of the cleanup for which we are most grateful.

We sincerely thank all the workers at the Transfer Station and promise them Pizza next year. Sorry we didn't realize there were no breaks and everyone was starving. **THANK YOU TRANSFER STATION.**

2. **World Oceans Day.** Jean will deliver the tri-fold about Ft. Point Trail and Town Forest to the celebration. Detailed map of the marsh will be laminated too.
3. **Trail work, Bog bridges.** Toni Small and Rob Stenger have organized a work party for Sunday June 8, at Fort Point. Permission is received from DEP to bridge the stream and selectmen have approved trail work. Dept of Parks enthusiastically supports our painting the picnic tables.

4. **FT. Point Historical Walk and Picnic.** Speakers will be Jim Skoglund (History), and Jon Eaton (history of conserving the river). Jean will check on about possibility of installing a Port-a-Potty.

5. **Energy Independence Day, Sunday August 17.** A subcommittee [Joss Coggeshall, Linda Duncan, Jean Hewitt. Gayle Elfast] will meet Friday 6/13 8 am at Jean's house to draw up plans.

6. **Thank you GARDEN COMMITTEE** for the plantings which so greatly enhance the entrance to the marsh and Tenants Harbor's welcome sign.

7. **Foot and Bike trails.** Anita reported that additional Neighborhood Access Paths (NAPs) are being identified by the St. George Community Association. Drift-in Beach, Horse Point and Glenmere were mentioned. Noted that other locales also support this idea and a foot trail connects Camden with Rockport. that trail is even plowed by the towns! [We think that trail is probably too grand for us].

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt (Sec'y.)

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 8, work party at Fort Point

July 11, Sherm Hoyt's talk on near shore conservation.

July 12, Walk/Talk/Picnic at Fort point

July 26, Bike-a-Thon in support of more bike lanes in the midcoast.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES JULY 2, 2008.

C.C. PRESENT: Joss Coggeshall, Skip Bracy, Jean Hewitt, Linda Duncan, Gayle Elfast, Duke Ellis (Chair).

OTHERS: Chris Leavitt, Ann Snow, Anita Siegenthaler, Alberta Donlan.

MINUTES: June 3, 2008 Minutes accepted as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Someone has dumped a refrigerator and stove in the Town Forest wetland. Very bad form! Anyone with information on how that came to be, please contact Chris Leavitt, 372-6363.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Open Space. More information for protection of open spaces is available from *The Trust For Public Lands* and *The Farmland Trust News*. Duke stressed that the first step is to ask that scenic spaces be voluntarily protected by the owner.
2. Kiosks. Pamphlets and mapping still in process.
3. "Fisheries, the River, and the Land", July 11. Talk by Sherm Hoyt, 7:00 pm at the Town Office. Ready to go.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. July 20, St. George Day Parade. Bill Iliff is Master of Ceremonies. To join the parade just assemble BY 10:45 am at the Church across from Granite Gardens. Members of the Conservation Commission enthusiastically volunteered to parade old, non-motorized lawn mowers down Main Street. Dress optional.
2. Energy Independence Day (EID). J. Hewitt read the list of activities and arrangements which are in place so far. The "St. George EID Alternative Energy Fair and House Tour" will be held Sunday August 17. The Fair from 10-3 pm, the House Tour from 11-4 pm. Start-up is at the town office parking lot. A suggested contribution of \$5.00. will benefit people needing heating assistance this winter.

Alternative Energy Fair will feature numerous "how to" exhibits and fuel saving devices as well as vehicles, solar and wind energy information. All comers welcome. If you or an acquaintance has fuel or money saving devices or ideas we would like to include you. This is about cutting costs without necessarily having huge start-up expenses. Contact Planning Committee members, Jos Coggeshall 372-6687, Linda Duncan 372-6943, Gayle Elfast 372-6398 or Jean Hewitt 372-8114.

We welcome volunteers to help line up exhibitors and assist at EID. Next Planning Committee meets Friday July 11, 8:00 am in the town office basement. All welcome.

3. Fort Point Bog and Trail Bridges. Pending submission of final proposal and site drawings. Although it seemed last month that all was in order, t'wasn't quite the case.

4. Ft. Point Walk-Talk-Picnic July 12 noon. Duke will lead the hike in. At 12:30 Jim Skoglund will relate history of Fort Point including new historical information. Jon Eaton of Georges River Tidewater Association will then discuss how the St. George has become a highly productive river.

NEXT CC MEETING: THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2008 AT 7:30 A.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt (Sec'y.)

DATES TO REMEMBER:

July 11, Sherm Hoyt's talk, "*Fisheries, The River and The Land.*" Town Office, 7:00 pm.

July 12, Walk/Talk/Picnic at Fort Point starts at noon by the spring, Wiley's Corner & Rt. #131.

July 18-20. St. George Days.

July 26, Bike-a-Thon in support of more bike lanes in the midcoast.

Jean Hewitt
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES AUGUST 7, 2008.

CC. PRESENT: Joss Coggeshall, Skip Bracy, Jean Hewitt, Linda Duncan, Gayle Elfast, Duke Ellis (Chair).

OTHERS; Chris Leavitt, Jan Wirth, Richard Cohen

MINUTES: July 3, minutes accepted as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS;

1. Energy Independence Day.

* CC has acquired a durable foldable banner which will be displayed at CC events. [Reads, St. George Conservation Commission]

*Moved, seconded and approved; to acquire a second banner from our budget which reads [St. George Energy Independence Day]

*Melissa Waterman will do an article on EID for Fort Point Page of the Free Press.

*There will be 6 or 7 speakers beginning at 10:30 am Sunday morning, and 13 exhibitors including a windmill at the Town Office parking lot. Eight homes are on the house tour.

2. Budget. As requested Chris Leavitt provided a copy of the 2008 CC budget. There is a residual of \$703.33 for fy 2008. Chris emphasized that proper procedure is to vote for expenditures in advance of making them.

3. Maine Coast Week (MCW) September 20-27. CC voted to celebrate MCW on Saturday September 20. A shore clean-up similar to the spring road clean-up will focus on the Fort Point Beaches. Participants will meet at Fort Point at 8:00 AM (low tide is at 8:45). Duke will speak to R. Paulson re having access for a truck to collect the debris, he will also notify the transfer station. Continue these plans at 9/11/08 meeting. Jean will list the event on town and library websites.

4. Composting and Recycling Members felt we can do more at public events to increase public awareness of how we recycle compostable materials especially food waste and compostable material like lobster shells. Some towns have compost facilities at their transfer stations. The possibility should be examined in St. George. Jan Wirth will mention this to L. Bailey at the Grange prior to their bean supper. In the meantime Duke will ask Tim Polky his thoughts, and refer the question to the recycling committee.

5. Adjourned Nest meeting September 4, 2008

Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt, Secretary

Attachments: EID speaker list for Sunday 8/17/08

ST. GEORGE ENERGY INDEPENDENCE DAY 2008
MINI-SEMINARS IN THE TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

1. 10:30 AM. Nate Russell, Granite Gardens and Scootch Pankonin, St George Transfer Station. When you attend Nate's talk, "**Compost: Black Gold**" you will also be eligible to purchase a composter at a reduced price.
2. 11:00 AM. Blair (Tump) May. "Photovoltaic Technology". Blair owns *Solar winds Northern Lights*. He designs and installs photovoltaic systems.
3. 11:30 AM. Charlie Wing is an Engineer, educator and writer. His talk, "Fuel Switching - is it worth it?" will describe how to determine (calculate) whether switching fuels or upgrading a heating system is worthwhile? His recent book, "How Your House Works" may be available.
4. 12:00 noon. Paul Kando, "Energy Audits, a Good Place to Start". Founding member of the Midcoast Green Collaborative in Damariscotta, Paul has spent his lifetime working in the renewable energy field.
5. 12:30 Soni Biehl is an educator with Maine Solar Energy Association. She will show us how to ... "Make a Solar Hot Water Collector... for less than \$150" Says, "If you're a good scrounger, it could be free! With limited carpentry and plumbing skills you, too, can begin your journey to generating free hot water. Hand outs provided."
6. 1:00 PM John K. McAlvain, Senior Resident Fellow, Urban Land Institute, Washington D.C. Will discuss the continuous rise in price of oil and gas and what it means for the State of Maine. His title, "Price of Oil and Gas, its Effect on Maine's Future".
7. 1:30 PM Sandy Yakavenko, "Sustainable Living in the Twenty First Century". Sandy will also demonstrate a new, "no-tek" water heater. Sandy owns an off the grid home in Tenants Harbor.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES SEPTEMBER 4, 2008.

CC PRESENT: Bracy, Small, Coggeshall, Duncan, Elfast, Ellis, Hewitt

OTHERS: Leavitt, Cote, Siegenthaler

MINUTES: Correction to minutes of August 7 Under Budget Item 1. Last sentence should read "...proper procedure (for purchases) is to talk with John (Town Manager) before the vote for expenditures." Minutes were approved with the above correction.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Budget. Toni Small asked whether the CC could apply for small grant funds for special projects and if so, how the money should be administered. The answer; Yes, application can be made, and the Town of St George will serve as fiscal agent.

RE correction to August minutes; CC asked Chris Leavitt to bring a budget update to each meeting rather than to delay making decisions until we find the Town Manager to learn whether there are funds in the budget or not. Chris said he thought he could do this.

RE Planter for flowers below sign which says, 'Welcome II Tenants Harbor'. Motion; In 2009 CC will pay half the cost of bulbs to decorate the planter. We will confer with the IIffs first to confirm they will also provide half the cost. Seconded, Unanimous approval.

2. Ft. Point Kiosk and Bridge Work. Rob Stenger submitted (in absentia) and we distributed, a draft for five of the six panels of a 2-sided, tri-fold Ft. Point brochure. CC was pleased and favorably impressed. Discussion is deferred until next month in hopes Rob can attend that meeting. He is also developing a brochure for the Town Forest.

Bridge installation on the Fort Point Trail is in the permitting process. No date was set for a work party.

3. Energy Independence Day. (EID) Impressions, commentary and recommendations of participants to EID. Some comments;

* Advertise speaker's titles, times and titles of talks earlier so participants may better plan their day.

* Plan a two-day event; fair and speakers one day, house tour the next.

* Advertise that food will be available...caterer might have sold more breakfasts if people had known.

* Maintain contribution cans at the fair, but not at the various homes on the tour.

Some supposed they had to pay at each site.

* Speakers were wonderful. The Fair was helpful. All in all a success.

* Speaker's presentationa should not overlap. Some audience wanted to attend every presentation.

In all about \$86.00 was collected. \$60 was spent (as agreed) to reimburse a demonstrator for gasoline. The remaining money might go toward materials for future signs. Duke will check with John about how to handle this.

Next Year. CC has scheduled the next EID on Sunday August 16, 2009. Fair and Speakers function at the Town Office from 10 am until 2 pm. House Tours from 1-5 pm. Speakers will talk hourly. Each will be allotted 45' including questions. An EID subcommittee will plan for next year. EID Committee is open to all who would like to help. Duke mentioned that Ft. Point Trail stewards are interested. Anita suggested we put an announcement in the Town Newsletter.

In lieu of a contribution Evergreen Home Performance has given to St. George an entry-level scholarship worth \$600.00 for anyone interested in completing coursework to learn how to do a green certified energy audit. The 30 hour entry level evening course begins Sept 17. CC would like to defer participation until next semester in the event we do not find a suitable applicant on this short notice. Contact Chris Leavitt or Jean Hewitt for more information. Or, click on 'More About Energy Audits' at evergreenhp.com

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Maine Coast Week September 20-27. CC noted that because this is a national endeavor the effort to clean up our beaches should be town wide. We will participate individually and collectively. There will be no special arrangements made at the transfer station. Groups may target specific areas to clean up. Signs will be posted "National Beach Clean-up Sept. 20-27" (Thank you Gayle)

CC will clear the Fort Point Beaches. Everyone is welcome. Meet Saturday September 20, at Fort Point, 8:00 am. Notices for this cleanup will be posted on the kiosk and on the road signs pointing to head of Ft. Point Trail. During the clean-up picnic benches at the Fort will get another coat of paint. (Thanks Toni)

2. Recycling at Public Events. Duke said Tim and the Recycle Committee are considering how to handle compostable materials. It requires more equipment, land, time and manpower than is currently available. Until those problems are solved we can begin work on a resource list for event organizers to use to buy biodegradable utensils (spoons, forks). A list of local homes and businesses which welcome bulk recyclable waste (lobster & clam shells, corn cobs, wet paper material) will also be compiled. Duke, with Tim Polky, will coordinate these lists. Linda and Gayle volunteered to search for sources of biodegradable utensils. We discussed having volunteers to sort and recycle trash during St. George Days.

3. Retreat. Duke will check with Randy Benthene (sp?) to see whether he can moderate a discussion on the afternoon of Sunday or Monday October 12 or 13.

4. Winter Lecture Series. Friends of St George (FOSG) will again co-sponsor these events with us. The series will include three presentations, one each in January, February and March 2009. Topics will include the effect of using Herbicides and

Pesticides on the ecosystem. Skip said the lobstermen on Long Island Sound are convinced shell disease is related to heavy use of pesticides and the lobster resource is about finished there. Two lectures will focus on conservation of power with presentations on Energy Audits and possibly on use of Geothermal heat which is not much discussed but a real possibility.

Specific plans to be presented at the next meeting. Jean will work with FOSG to complete these details.

5. Adjourned. Respectfully, Jean Hewitt (Sec'y.)

NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY OCTOBER 9, 7:30 AM IN THE TOWN OFFICE.

Note: There is a public meeting called by the Committee to Appraise Town Government (CATG) on Thursday, Sept. 11, 7 pm at the Town Office. CATG is constructing a questionnaire to address our concerns. Please come or send your thoughts to John Blydenburgh at jbly@verizon.net.

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES, OCT. 9, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT; Duncan, Elfast, Ellis, Hewitt,

OTHERS: Rob Stenger, Chris Leavitt

MINUTES: Approved as submitted.

Old Business:

1. Budget discussion; Chris delivered a current budget statement. CC voted to pay dues of \$150.00 again this year to the Maine Assoc of Conservation Commissions. We want to encourage them to provide leadership and training on conservation issues across the state. Leaves a balance of \$488.51. We will not support Friends of Midcoast this year.

2. Kiosks for Ft. Point and Town Forest; Rob submitted his layout for informational pamphlets. He agreed to add a statement describing the CC's responsibilities, and one describing standards for appropriate behavior on the trails.

Part of the Town Forest Kiosk is broken. Duke will replace it.

Linda will report on cost of printing 500 each of the pamphlets on slick (slightly waterproof) paper.

Ft. Point Bridge work is approved. Duke will submit application by 10/21 to the Planning Board for review on 10/28.

3. Next Energy Independence Day is scheduled for Sunday, August 16, 2009.

New Business:

1. Webpage design for CC. Marguerite Cutroni detailed the complicated web building process for St. George and it is a LOT of work. She is providing the service voluntarily. We will soon have a draft copy of CC's page. Our input and changes to be submitted to her by 10/24.

2. Ft. Point Clean-up: beach Clean-up went easily. Beaches were cleared thanks to Gayle and Jane Bracy. Picnic tables rec'd another coat of grey paint. Thank you Toni.

3. Recycling at public events: A source list will be created for recyclable utensils. Another for recipients of recycled lobster, corn etc. Duke Ellis chickens are anxious for the lobster remains.

4. Retreat: we scheduled January 8, 2009 from 8am to noon for CC's retreat. This meeting is instead of our regular January meeting. Retreat at Jean Hewitt's home.

5. Winter Film Series: Rob Stenger submitted a copy of a CD entitled "Farmland and Farmers for the Future. Beyond Conservation Easements". Sounds like a good subject. Jean will share it with FOSTGeo and report back next meeting.

Next; Thursday, November 7, 2008. Respectfully submitted, Jean Hewitt [Sec'y.]