

**TOWN OF KENNEBUNK
CONSERVATION AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING 04/16/19
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

On April 16, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 306 of the Town Hall, the meeting was called to order.

PRESENT: Grace Cain, Jennifer Shack, Todd Bridgeo

GUESTS: Katrina Amaral, Friends of Rachel Carson NWR

MINUTES

The minutes for the April 1 meeting were read and accepted.

FRIENDS OF RACHEL CARSON NWR

Amaral spoke about the initiatives of the Friends of Rachel Carson NWR. The non-profit, which was founded in 1987, is being revitalized and is focused on building capacity. Its activities include land acquisition, outreach and community engagement. It is seeking board members and volunteers to conduct outreach and/or walk the refuge's trails in order to educate the public about the refuge and its natural resources.

WETLANDS MITIGATION ORDINANCE

Update on action steps:

- Shack contacted the Kittery town planner for information on its ordinance. Cain did the same for South Portland. They will continue to reach out to towns in Maine with wetlands mitigation ordinances
- Shack presented information on how the states of Maine and New Hampshire calculate mitigation fees that can be paid in lieu of protecting, restoring or creating wetlands as an offset to any wetland fills or disturbances. The Commission focused on the Maine state calculations as they are already accepted by developers in the state.
- Shack will continue to research how other states approach wetlands mitigation.

REVIEW SITE PLAN PROPOSALS AND SITE WALKS

Cain attended the site walk for the rest stop expansion. The expansion will affect approximately one acre of Punky Swamp. The Maine Turnpike Authority has not yet submitted a wetlands survey. The Commission will comment once the survey has been submitted.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

This was tabled as Branchina was absent (due to being at a Comprehensive Plan workshop with the Board of Selectmen).

OTHER BUSINESS

Cain met with Chris Osterreider, the town engineer, about monitoring the vernal pools at the rest area. She was given permission to do so.

The Commission noted that The Porches development should not have been allowed to encroach on the 250' setback from the second rest area vernal pool and will in the future look at adjoining properties before sending recommendations to the Planning Board.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.