

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Wednesday June 21, 2023, MEETING (Skaket Room) 9AM TOWN OF ORLEANS

Attendees: OSC Members: Chair Stephanie Gaskill, Lynn O'Connell until 0957AM, Hardie Truesdale, Christopher Keating, David Herrick, also attending Stephen O'Grady for the OCT until 0949 .

Call to Order: Chair Stephanie Gaskill called the meeting to order at 9AM with a Quorum (5 members) .

- 1. Vote to go into Executive Session.** The Committee voted to go into Executive session at 9:02AM to discuss a property purchase with the OCT. Hardie Truesdale Moved to go into Executive Session and Lynn O'Connell seconded. The members approved the motion. Executive session ends at 9:39AM
- 2. Public Comment:** There were no public comments at this time.
- 3. Approval of Minutes from the 3/15/2023 meeting:** Lynn O'Connell moved to approve the May 17, 2023 minutes and Hardie Truesdale seconded. All five members present approved the minutes.

4. Report from Christopher Keating on Cedar Pond lot status: Christopher Keating reported that unfortunately there was no news to report at this time. The owner of 10 Cedar Pond had decided to wait until arriving back in Orleans this May before addressing this potential sale. As of this meeting, calls and emails have not been answered.

5. Continued discussion of Bay Ridge Wetland Lots Report: The Chair reported that she has not heard back yet from Select board member, Kevin Galligan on reclamation of the former D.P.W. property adjacent to the wetland lots. The Chair noted that the whole area is a conundrum of mixed use lots which makes overall cleanup of the area difficult. Hardie Truesdale asked if the D.P.W lot was adjacent to the Wetland lots. Lynn O'Connell proceeded to lay out details of the area from a GIS map that was distributed to the members. David Herrick commented that it might not make sense to preserve the wetland lots if nothing comes about with improvement on the adjacent lots. Lynn O'Connell questioned if it is not in our purview to be concerned with what other adjacent landowners are doing with their property. Christopher Keating commented that there is a danger with delay as the lots could be snapped up by landowners looking for more storage areas. The Chair, in response noted that a high assessed value reflects this concern. In conclusion, the Chair will bring these matters on the wetland lots value and storage materials on nearby lots to the forefront with John Jannell and ask if he can attend the next meeting.

6. Discussion of the Town of Orleans Comprehensive Plan (2006): The Chair talked about her letter to John Meservey about OSC updates to language in the plan. The Chair questioned if any more updates to the language should be made, specifically if the Recreation and other committees should have more of a role with the OSC. Hardie Truesdale and David Herrick pointed out that the OSC could share and listen to other committee minutes. The Chair and other members thought this would be too time consuming and unnecessary. The Chair stated that we could certainly attend Select board meetings when each committee head appears before the board.

7. New Opportunities, Discussion, Arey's Pond other potential properties: Lynn O'Connell brought to the attention of the committee a new property for sale on Paw Wah pond. Hardie Truesdale noted lack of access and the potential value of this prime waterfront property. David Herrick stated that the OSC could approach the neighbors to seek potential initial support. The Chair reminded everyone of the need in town for more recreational access to the waterways, but noted that this parcel was isolated from any other contingent parcels. Christopher Keating asked if this (.76 acre) lot was in any way connected to the old Viking Camp through the adjacent bog. David Herrick noted that Alex of the OCT was working on the bog and that he would approach Stephen O'Grady on the matter of the bog, lot and the old Viking Camp.

8. Discussion regarding CPC 2024 Grant Applications: The Chair noted that 2024 Grant Applications would open in July and close in November. Possible Grant Applications for projects could involve the 22 Tonset Road Lot, Bay Ridge Road lots, Arey's Pond lots and/or other properties that become available.

9. Next meeting scheduled: Wednesday July 19, 2023 at 9AM is the date of the next meeting.

10. Adjournment of Meeting: A motion was made to adjourn by Christopher Keating at 10:12 AM and Hardie Truesdale seconded. All five members present approved.

Respectfully Submitted, Christopher Keating, Clerk