

OFFICIAL MINUTES: Business Meeting
Eliot Conservation Commission
Eliot, Maine 03903

DATE: November 2, 2022

OFFICERS:

Chair: Kari Moore

Vice Chair: Lisa Wise

Secretary: Peter Egelston

Treasurer: Lynn Bubley

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM.

1. 6:30 PM Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order with roll call at 6:33 pm by Kari Moore.

In attendance: Kari Moore (Chair), Lynn Bubley (Treasurer), Cyndy Camp (Member), Peter Egelston (Secretary), Lisa Wise (Vice Chairman)

2. Public Input:

There was no public input at this meeting.

3. Review and approve past minutes:

Minutes from the 10/5/22 meeting reviewed and approved, with minor edits. It was noted that minutes from two of last fall's meetings are missing. Peter stated that he is aware and will address that.

4. Financial:

Kari informed the group that she spoke with Mike Sullivan about the Land Bank funds. He assured her that the money is all there and that he is working to restore the approximately \$29,000, plus the additional \$5,000 that the town voted on this year. Kari said she has faith the money will be returned to the Land Bank.

Mike Sullivan wants the ECC's budget for FY 2023 (starting 7/1/2023) submitted by November 15.

This year's budget request consists of:

\$800 – Education and guest speakers

\$300 – Dues (Great Works Regional Land Trust and Maine Association of Conservation Commissions)

\$150 – Copies, postage and supplies

\$270 – Johnson Land maintenance

\$15,000 – Land Bank

With respect to dues, Peter asked if there are other organizations that the ECC should consider joining. Lisa and Kari felt that there are not.

“Why is Johnson Lane maintenance” part of the ECC’s budget, it was asked. No one knew why, other than that’s the way it’s been.

Peter agreed to reach out to the GWRLT to see if they have any acquisition projects on the horizon within the town of Eliot that could be assisted with funds from the Land Bank in order to support its \$15,000 Land Bank request.

The budget request, as described above, was unanimously passed.

5. Project Development/Permit Review/Planning Studies

The ECC looked at paperwork pertaining to the “Villages on Great Brook” development, a project that was started in 2007 but stopped prior to completion by a Notice of Violation from the Maine DEP.

The original plan consisted of 150 units. 43 were built before the project was halted. The Amended plan before the Planning Board is to reduce the scope of the project from 150 to 43 units. Based on the plans they had, it was unclear to members of the ECC what has been built and what is yet to be built. The plan was scheduled to be presented to the Planning Board on November 15th.

The October 25 Climate Resiliency Partnership workshop at Green Acre attracted a good mix of people. Notes and results are being compiled by Jeff Brubaker and Abbie Sherwin from the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission. Jeff will post a summary on the town’s website. The Select Board will be asked to enroll Eliot in the Partnership Program, which will make the town eligible for grants through the program.

The Comprehensive Plan project is “gaining steam,” with an initial meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 9. ECC members on the Comprehensive Plan Committee (Lisa, Kari and Peter) will bring feedback to ECC meetings. One goal is to see that ECC objectives are integrated into the Comprehensive Plan.

6. Education/Outreach

The Fall Cleanup at Dead Duck was smaller than recent cleanup events, but still worthwhile in the view of those who attended. Kari reported that Mike Sullivan wants to brief the ECC on the town’s plans for Dead Duck.

81 Kari mentioned the Town's website shows a flyer promoting the Household Hazardous Waste
82 collection at the transfer station on November 12.

83
84 Citizen Science Projects – The University of Maine's "Big Night" program in spring, where data on
85 frogs and salamanders in vernal pools is collected. Currently there are no surveyed sites in Eliot. Kari
86 is hoping to identify some so the town can participate in this event.

87
88 There was some discussion of initiating a speaker series. The Center for Wildlife was mentioned as a
89 possible presenter.

90
91 **7. Round Table**

92 Peter asked about the status of the pedestrian and bike survey that was conducted in town last year.
93 It was adopted by the Select Board.

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95 The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday December 7, at 6:30 PM.

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97 The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:14 pm.

98
99 Respectfully submitted,

100
101 Peter Egelston

102 Secretary

103 CC: Eliot Town Clerk, Commission Members, Commission File