**Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 4:30 pm**

At the Surry Town Wharf

**Attendees:**

Tom Minogue, Sharon Minogue, Nancy Hathaway, Chris Stark, Sue Sokol, Marie Merkel, Irene Schmidt, Nancy Hathaway, Heather Richard

1. **Minutes 4/29** -approved
2. **Treasurer’s Report-** no expenditures
3. **Carrying Place Parking Lot –** The Conservation Commission approved this statement for the Public Hearing/ Special Town Meeting on Monday night regarding purchasing the 11.9 acre lot which includes a portion that the town has been using from public parking: "The Conservation Commission recommends the town purchase this property to support Carrying Place Beach and also recommends that we use it for conservation and historical purposes."
4. **Patten Bay water monitoring update** – Heather reported that clam boxes that Surry volunteers assisted Heather in making on May 8, were placed from the Patten Bay town wharf to Union River Bay. The Shaw Institute has a new staff member, Michelle and a new intern that have assisted. Under Canvas gave permission to have 3 boxes at their beach. Heather mentioned that there already was a lot of spat in the clam boxes at the town wharf. She said that, in the future, we may want to explore the potential of Patten Bay being used as a nursery for shellfish.
5. **Surry Conservation Commission Members –**

Current members will maintain on the commission. There was a discussion about how to invite more people to be involved. It was decided that at the July meeting we would hold an Annual Meeting, on the 3rd Thursday in July 22, weather permitting, at the town wharf, or, if inclement weather, move it to the Old Surry Schoolhouse at 4:30 pm. The goal is to invite Surry residents and BHHT, Shaw Institute, working in conservation to report and share what they are doing. Marie has a list from that last time this was organized and said it was how Shaw Institute got involved with the Surry Conservation Commission. It was recommended to also invite Hancock County Soil and Water and Blue Hill Heritage Trust.

1. **Notice: Peninsula-wide Sea Level Rise Conference, June 4 by zoom.** The SCC and the Select Board received and invitation to attend by zoom. It isviewed as an opportunity to begin studying the potential impacts of sea level rise, storm surges and increased freshwater runoff from major rainstorm events in Surry.
2. **Other Items –**

**Under Canvass –** Nancy reported that an employee was spraying a wood chip path with the herbicide Roundup. She reported to CEO, Tim Ferrell who stated that they were in compliance with state guidelines. Irene said that Under Canvass had agreed to use best practices to protect the environment but there appears to be no written documentation to that effect. Heather said that she will talk to UC about it and help them explore alternatives that Shaw Institute recommends and will report back.

**Turkey carcasses** were found on the Morgan Bay side of the bridge. In instances like this it is recommended to call a Game Warden (207) 287-8000..

1. **Next meeting,** Third Thursday, June 17, 4:30 pm at the Town Wharf, if the weather is favorable. If not, it will be at the Old Surry Schoolhouse.