

# **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

## PACKET OF MATERIALS

MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2016

Cover page with date

Agenda

Minutes for approval

Supporting Documents

**Agenda**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Monday, October 17, 2016**  
**Conference Room – Municipal Building**  
**93 Cottage Street**  
**7:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. EXCUSED ABSENCES**
- III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- V. UPDATES**
- VI. ONGOING BUSINESS**
  - a. Night Sky Resources
  - b. Next steps for Landowner engagement for Open Space Plan
- VII. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*The Conservation Commission strives to hold meetings that are accessible to all. Please contact the Bar Harbor Planning Department by calling 288-3329 or by e-mail to [planningdirector@barharbormaine.gov](mailto:planningdirector@barharbormaine.gov) if you have any questions about this process or to let us know what you may require to facilitate your participation.*

**Minutes**  
**Bar Harbor Conservation Commission**  
**September 19, 2016**  
**Conference Room – Municipal Building**  
**93 Cottage Street**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Members present: Jesse Wheeler, Chair; Elissa Chesler; Jeff Miller; Mike Handwerk, and Jacquie Colburn, Secretary.*

*Also present: Bob Osborne, Planning Director. John Kelly, Acadia National Park, Sarah Hall and Mike Marion.*

**II. EXCUSED ABSENCES**

*None.*

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Ms. Chesler moved to approve the minutes of June 13, 2016, July 11, 2016 and August 8, 2016. Mr. Miller seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.*

**IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

*Ms. Chesler moved to adopt the agenda as published plus adding an item on the Recycling Task Force (of which Mr. Handwerk is a member). Mr. Handwerk seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.*

**V. UPDATES**

*The Commission talked about the need for additional members.*

**VII. ONGOING BUSINESS**

a. Night Sky Resources

*The Commission discussed their concerns about making progress on moving forward on light fixtures that are dark sky friendly. Elissa Chesler stated that there have been violations after the regulations were passed in the Land Use Ordinance. She noted as an example that there are lighting wall packs in certain locations not in compliance with the LUO standards.*

*Jesse Wheeler indicated that there is a lack of awareness at all levels and that education is needed for electricians, property owners, contractors, regulators and realtors.*

*It was suggested that a lighting expert be secured to speak to town officials about review of lighting fixtures and photogrammetry.*

*John Kelly suggested that Dwight Lampert of Southwest Harbor is a lighting expert. Mr. Kelly explained the program originated at Bryce Canyon National Park, Utah and Chad Moore, astronomer developed the program, He explained that the effort to bring the program to Bar Harbor was a multi year effort and it consists of three prongs: promote dark sky – measure light pollution – protect dark sky. He noted that a brochure has been developed to inform the public.*

*Mr. Kelly noted that the Comprehensive Plan calls for a lighting ordinance and a 10-year sunset provision for non-compliant lighting fixtures but that was dropped when the ordinance was adopted.*

*Mr. Kelly discussed the updated illumination mapping. He noted that the Park Service mapping is sky illumination mapping and the College of the Atlantic mapping is ground illumination mapping.*

*A discussion of street lighting followed: The State Highway 3 project will require the relocation of a number of street lights. The concern expressed was that the existing lighting is not dark sky friendly and if the lighting could be replaced with better light fixtures that now would be the time to do it.*

*Mr. Kelly indicated that Emera has demonstrated a lack of action on this issue which would require action from the Public Utilities Commission in order to authorize such a change. He also noted that a prior study had indicated that half of the lighting could be removed was the conclusion reached.*

*It was noted that the Town of Mount Desert was looking into its own street lights and was running into difficulties with Emera.*

*Mike Marion spoke to the Commission regarding his work on the Climate to Thrive.*

*The Commission considered the development of a reasoned letter to the Public Utilities Commission.*

b. Recycling Task Force Report.

*Mike Handwerk reported as a member of the task force. The primary task is a recommendation on the new facility as soon as possible. The intent is to get*

*this into the budget process and for vote at Town Meeting. The speaker at the next task force meeting is ECO Maine.*

**VIII. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

*The commission urged the notes from the Joint Council/Conservation Commission meeting should be sent out to the Commission so that all can review the comments that were made that evening. The Commission set October 17, 2016 as the date for their next meeting.*

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Miller moved the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Chesler seconded the motion which was approved unanimously at 9:15 pm.*

---

**Jacquis Colburn, Secretary**  
**Bar Harbor Conservation Commission**

**Date**