



Director's Report
August, 2017
Elizabeth Migliore

Administrative

Orleans Water Quality Advisory Panel: For all the meeting materials, go to <http://www.town.orleans.ma.us/water-quality-advisory-panel/pages/workshop-materials>.

I attended the Conservation Commission meeting on August 15 for an Administrative Review regarding the removal of invasive purple loosestrife from the Mauch Gift Conservation Area on Old Duck Hole Road. Permission was granted, and work will occur by Wilkinson Ecological.

Land Management

The land management committee has prioritized properties for land management in 2017. Land Manager Andrew Bagnara have been busy monitoring properties, keeping up with hazardous tree removal and property mowing, and completing land management plans for our largest properties. AmeriCorps Cape Cod Placement Derek Brudahl graduated from the program on July 27. We will be getting a new AmeriCorps Individual Placement one day/week starting in October.

Northern diamondback terrapin monitoring has been occurring at Whites Lane Conservation Area through Mass Audubon. Seven nests have been protected, exceeding the previous year. The terrapins are expected to hatch in early September. Stay tuned for our hatchling release event!

Conservation Restriction monitoring is wrapped up for the year. This will start up again in the spring.

Land Acquisition

OCT has raised enough funds to purchase two developable parcels on Nauset Heights Road and Olivers Way in East Orleans, with the anticipated \$75,000 state conservation tax credit in October 2017! These parcels will connect to existing OCT conservation land donated by the Cullen family, including Mill Pond waterfront. We have been notified by the state that money has been freed for the state conservation tax credit to move up the closing to this October. We will continue to accept contributions designated towards the closing costs of this transaction, and ongoing land management of the parcels. For more information view the blog posting at <http://orleansconservationtrust.org/land-acquisition-opportunity-in-east-orleans/>.

OCT has signed a purchase agreement for a parcel connecting to White's Lane Conservation Area, and is launching a fundraising effort for this 1.7-acre property. This purchase will create a 16 acre preserve off Henson's Way. This forested parcel connects to existing OCT land, creating an important wildlife corridor in an area that includes nesting Northern diamondback terrapins. This land is developable, and would include the construction of a long driveway and an additional septic system close to wetlands and Henson's Cove. With the money raised from the G. Love concert, we are currently a third of the way to our \$350,000 goal. Read more about this potential purchase at <http://orleansconservationtrust.org/land-acquisition-opportunity-braddocks-way/>.

I met with the state coordinator for the Land Conservation Partnership Grant on August 1, to walk the Lot 13 property at Braddock's Way. While the property meets the grant requirements, there are more applications than funds available. We will find out by early December if we're receiving the \$85,000 grant toward this purchase.

Finance/Investment Committee

Treasurer Steve Koehler received the draft 2016 financial statements and the Form 990, which will be sent around to the board to review.

Fundraising Committee

Musician G. Love performed at the Academy Playhouse to benefit the Orleans Conservation Trust on August 7, 2017. This sold out show raised \$16,600 toward the purchase of the 1.7-acre property at Braddock's Way! The night started with drinks, food, and a silent auction outside. G. Love then performed his unique blues hip-hop fusion for over an hour, first in a solo performance, then being joined by a local bass player and drummer to end the night rocking out. This event was a success thanks to the support of various sponsors, including Hog Island Beer Co., David Bowler Wine, and Land Ho!. In addition, the following local businesses/residents donated auction items: G. Love, Marcelle Desrochers Landscaping, Lake Farm Gardens, Atlantic White Shark Conservancy, Garden Gate Design, Local Scoop, Sailsco, Bob Yaps, Orleans Cycle, and ABBA Restaurant. Another major component of our fundraising was the raffle of Hardie Truesdale's framed photography of Nauset Marsh. Thank you to everyone who attended and generously donated to OCT.



The Academy Playhouse.



The raffle tent.



The silent auction.



G. Love performing.



G. Love and friends performing.



G. Love with Land Manager Andrew Bagnara.

Communications/Marketing

The Communications Committee is currently recruiting members interested in assisting with our newsletters and other materials sent out to the community. Work on the fall newsletter will begin shortly.

The committee has recently redesigned the OCT informational brochure, which is several years old and contains outdated contact information. This brochure was funded by the Community Preservation Committee, and will be stocked around town.

Educational Meetings/ Programs

Recent Walks:

Kayak to Little Sipson’s Island – August 29

This kayak trip was postponed due rough water conditions.

Upcoming Walks:

Grassy Knoll Conservation Area

Saturday, September 9 from 10:00 – 11:30 am

A 1.5-mile walk through an early succession habitat, then along the shores of Nauset Harbor. Meet at 60 Champlain Road, Orleans. Parking on side of road along OCT conservation property.

Upcoming Fall Lectures: Our fall lecture series will held at the Orleans Yacht Club from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month, in September – November.

Coping with Ticks

Larry Dapsis, Entomologist, Cape Cod Cooperative Extension

Tuesday, September 12

6:30-7:30 pm (Doors open at 6:00 pm cash bar)

Orleans Yacht Club, 39 Cove Road, Orleans