



Director's Report
June, 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>.

Land Management

The land management committee has prioritized properties for land management in 2017. AmeriCorps placement Derek and land manager Andrew Bagnara have been busy monitoring properties, keeping up with hazardous tree removal, and completing land management plans for our largest properties.

Northern diamondback terrapin monitoring has begun at White's Lane Conservation Area with the help of Mass Audubon. This monitoring typically runs through July, with a handful of nests usually discovered and protected. The terrapins will hatch in September.

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 2018! These parcels will connect to existing OCT conservation land donated by the Cullen family, including Mill Pond waterfront. We have been given an extension to January 2018 for this purchase, to accomade the tax credit. 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 closed on the 1.40 acre lot on Tom's Hollow Lane on June 23. A purchase agreement was signed for \$250,000, with OCT granted 3 months to fundraise. This property includes a veral pool, and is across a dirt lane from OCT's 58 acre Cochran Gift. All the funds for this purchase were raised with the help of generous neighbors.

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.

Finance/Investment Committee

OCT's spring membership appeal brought in dues slightly higher than the previous year for the months of May and June. A big push for unrestricted gifts is needed to cover the additional costs of salary and the office space this year.

Fundraising Committee

The fundraising committee has been meeting regularly to plan this year's fundraising events. Donor appreciation cocktail parties were held on June 16 and 23. The committee is also planning a fundraising concert

at the Academy Playhouse on August 7 for the purchase of Lot 13 at Braddock's Way. The concert will include a performance by G. Love, a silent auction, and raffle.

The committee is looking to recruit additional members from the community who have prior experience with fundraising or event planning.

Communications/Marketing

The Communications Committee is currently recruiting members interested in assisting with our newsletters and other materials sent out to the community.

The committee has recently redesigned the OCT membership brochure, which is several years old and contains outdated contact information.

Educational Meetings/ Programs

Recent Walks:

On June 2, Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Director Bob Prescott led a walk at White's Lane Conservation Area. Twenty-one hikers learned about the restoration efforts at White's Lane, and the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the Northern Diamondback Terrapin nesting sites. Bob also discussed the bluebird boxes on the property, and the use of the restored grassland habitat by various bird species. The 12 acre White's Lane property includes a trail less than one mile long.





Upcoming Walks:

Kent's Point Conservation Area

Thursday, July 20 from 9:00 – 10:30 am

Meet at the town parking lot at the end of Frost Fish Lane, Orleans

1.5 mile walk along undeveloped shoreline, fronting Lonnie's Pond, Little Pleasant Bay and Frost Fish Creek. The main trail to the former Kent house site goes up the center of the property leading to a boardwalk overlooking The River and the northern portion of Pleasant Bay. Frost Fish cove is frequented by herons and other waterbirds.

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