



Draft Monthly Report
October, 2018
Stephen O'Grady

Administrative

I've solidified speakers for our upcoming winter/spring lecture series and have finalized our walks schedule as well. I have continued working on a CPC grant application for expansion of our bluebird box trail and addition of other bird boxes/bat houses to OCT and Town properties (Putnam Farm).

Kevin and I have narrowed our focus and are approaching a solution with a landowner interested in extinguishing a right of way on their property, affecting OCT legal access. I have consulted with Mark Robinson on the issue and also spoke with George Meservey of the Town Planning Department and appraiser Linda Coneen.

Initial outreach for the Business Advisory Council is to be sent on 11/9/18. A breakfast at the OCT office will be held on Friday, November 30.

Land Management

Our Land Management Committee, in light of recent review of a few land management plans (specific to a certain property) has concluded that we should really be developing an annual schedule of all land management activities, which will then inform budgeting needs. Our current budget for land management activities will not cover all our needs, but this approach will allow for more informed decision-making.

The 6 trail kiosks were installed on 10/19. Andrew has been filling these with the appropriate materials, and I hope to work with Diana and others to get some history and significance information on each property posted in the kiosks.

Fall mowing of our grassland habitats and a few other parcels where we mow to keep back invasive species has begun. We have mowed the Hannum Gift off Beach Rd and the Young/Flint Property on Chaplain Rd, the Ewald Gift on Fox Ridge Rd, the E.C. Nickerson Gift on Whippoorwill Ln, the Kaitz Gift on Dylan Way, and the Moerschner Gift on Cheney Ln. We have the McMahan Gift and the Mauch Gift left to mow. We also hope to have a prescribed burn at White's Lane this fall/winter.

Andrew and I will be getting a pesticide applicators license in 2019.

Governance

Committee chairs have been notified about reviewing their respective committee charters. The governance committee reviewed that charter and will be reviewing our bylaws and our policies and procedures in the coming months.

Land Acquisition

I met with Pete Van Oot to discuss Tar Kiln Marsh area, and we hope to find out more about the health of the marsh system and also plan to research Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APRs) so as to have an informed conversation with some of the neighbors to the marsh.

We continue to engage with FoPB regarding Sipson's Island, and they should be have a presentation for us on November 13.

We have also learned of a new opportunity that may exist to purchase a couple small lots in the Mayflower Point neighborhood. More details to follow.

Finance/Investment Committee

We reviewed quarterly statements on 10/18, and Jamie has taken up exploring alternatives to our current investments, including CDs, which we have not done in recent history. We are having a good year in terms of dues and unrestricted funds, but year-end gifts are essential.

Fundraising Committee

We had a productive meeting on 10/23, and we decided that we will test out a holiday open house. We have settled on 4/27 for the Addison Art Gallery event, and we also hope to try a pollinator event this spring. Kevin and Judy are already harvesting milkweed seed for us! I've also reached out to Mike Lach and got specifics on their wine tasting dinners, which seem quite successful for them.

Communications/Marketing

The newsletter has been sent to the printer and should be in the mail by Friday, 11/9. I have drafted an appeal letter and Jamie has begun review.

Website progress has been slow as we've been focusing on the newsletter, but we'll get back to that soon.

Educational Meetings/ Programs

I attended the Compact board meeting on 10/15. We had some important discussion about encroachment, and I think this is an issue OCT should be more proactive about. We also heard some bad news about the Conservation Land Tax Credit (CLTC), which will likely need to be deducted from income tax deductions in the event of a CLTC project due to new legislation.

Recent Event:

Kenrick Woods Walk

Cape Codder reporter and botanist Rich Eldred joined us at the John Kenrick Woods for what was a very informative and well attended walk.

Recent Fall Lecture:

Theresa Sprague, of Blue Flax Design spoke on ecological landscape design, and she made some of the common scientific practices in her field accessible to the audience.

Upcoming Walk:

Grassy Knoll

Tues, 11/20, 1-2:30 pm

Meet at 61 Champlain Rd. Great views of Nauset Estuary!

Upcoming Fall Lecture:

Seth Rolbein, Cape Cod Fisheries Trust

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Seth will speak on the small-scale fisheries on the Cape, the community's role in supporting these fisheries, and what fishermen have been seeing with regards to warming waters.