

## **York Conservation Commission – March 2023 Meeting 3/8/2023**

Members in Attendance – Stephanie Byrne, Mary Lou Dopart, Alan McDonald, Gerry Beekman, Andrew King, James Kences

Select Board meeting (3/13)(rescheduled from 2/13)

The CC will address the SB, requesting approval of:

1. Designation of Lake Carolyn and Phillips Pond as conservation lands, registering them on the Maine Conservation Lands Registry;
2. Implementation of an invasives control project for the two properties, developed by Southern Maine Forestry, under joint direction by SMF and Parks and Rec.

Town interactions

The CC will request a meeting with the new town manager to discuss ongoing work and necessary actions, including cooperation between town boards/commissions/committees. The CC also met with Peter Murray (department head of Parks and Rec and designated CC liaison with the town) and Ryan Coite to discuss the SMF invasive species plan and share current issues and priorities. The CC should participate in interviews for the new town position focused on climate action.

Mayors' Monarch Pledge

The CC will engage with Robin Kerr, town Conservation Coordinator, regarding implementation of actions approved by the SB as the town pledge.

Monitoring of town conservation easements

Gerry has arranged to monitor the Bayberry Woods conservation easement. He will also contact the Kittery Water District and the York Land Trust regarding monitoring of the Highland Farm easement and the Water District easements.

Engagement with other conservation-oriented organizations

Mary Lou and Gerry met with the York Land Trust to discuss mutual interests, and expect to have regular such meetings.

Mary Lou will contact Marina Mails, new Executive Director of the non-profit York Ready for Climate Action, to initiate an exchange of information on priorities and current work.

Central storage for CC documents

The town library has agreed to provide public-accessible storage for CC documents. Members approved the purchase of folders for this purpose.