

APPROVED MINUTES
MARGINAL WAY COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022, 4 PM

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Joan Griswold, Louesa Gillespie, Elaine Cooper, Susan Olson Drisko, Joanne Resta, Joyce Fletcher, Gail Brother, and Paul Breen

Jane Greene was traveling.

A quorum was noted.

B. MINUTES- Paul Breen

The minutes for the meeting of the Marginal Way Committee held on 8.1.22 were approved.

C.TREASURER's REPORT – Gail Brother

The information for this month's Treasurer's report was not available and will be reported at the next month's meeting.

D.CHAIR REPORT- Joan Griswold

1. Seaside Gardens

Discussion continues between the sponsor of the year's grant covering the maintenance of the Seaside Gardens and the Marginal Way Committee on the approach to be taken in selecting plants for the Seaside Garden.

The Marginal Way Committee has been pursuing an approach which introduces wildness into the plants being deployed in the Seaside Garden while the sponsor prefers flowering plants.

As the sponsor provides funds to establish and maintain the plant population of the Seaside Garden on Town owned land, and as there is no established Town policy on this issue, this matter will be brought to the attention of the Town Manager and the Select Board for discussion and resolution.

2. Plaque Noting the Incorporation of the Marginal Way into the National Register of Historic Places

The walk by the Marginal Way Committee to identify a few sites suitable for locating a plaque noting the incorporation of the Marginal Way into the National Register of Historic Places has been delayed and will be conducted next month.

3. Coastal Conference

The Chair will attend a one-day Coastal Conference in Saco on Sept 27th which focuses on possible solutions for problems facing coastal communities along the Maine coast.

4. The Annual Report for the Marginal Way Committee

The annual report for the Marginal Way Committee is in preparation.

5. POD Day

The Annual POD picking day for collecting and disposing of the seed pods from the Black Swallow-Wort invasive plants along the Marginal Way was held on August 13th.

37 volunteers collected 420 pounds of seed pods which were burned.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. People Counter – Gail Brother

The People Counter reports for the multiyear period from 2018 to 2022 and for the month of August 2022 may be found in Attachments 1 and 2 respectfully.

2. Trail Monitor Group– Elaine Cooper

The Trail Monitors have completed 86% of their 102 scheduled walks. Only one volunteer has dropped out.

Reports continue of visitors violating Town rules by taking dogs on the Marginal Way during restricted periods.

The Beachmere Inn hosted a Luncheon today for Trail Monitor Volunteers.

Work continues in locating site markers which define property lines for the Marginal Way.

3. Volunteer Hours for Marginal Way Committee Members-Gail Brother

The Volunteer hours for the months of July and August 2022 may be found in Attachment 3.

The value of volunteer hours to-date for this fiscal year is \$14,170.

4. Geology Lectures-Joyce Fletcher

Professor Emily Peterman made a visit to the Marginal Way to familiarize her with the Marginal Way as she is the Geology consultant to the Marginal Way Committee.

She suggested that a few Geology students could develop projects next year on the Marginal Way.

Details will be provided at future meetings.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Marginal Way Preservation Fund- Louesa Gillespie

The dedication of Plaque #5 will be held at the Serenity Point Plaque site on the Marginal Way on the morning of September 17^h. A luncheon will be held at Barbara O’Leary’s home following the dedication.

2.EMAIL Blast – Jane Greene

The development of the MWC email blast continues for the purpose of communicating updates, information, and events to interested members of the public.

3. The 2025 Centennial Celebration of the Marginal Way Purchase– Joan Griswold

The Chair suggested that the Marginal Way Committee should be the lead for organizing the set of activities associated with recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Marginal Way. The Officers of the Marginal Way

Preservation Fund should be included in the planning of this event as the Board could be the funders of proposed activities.

The planning will address the ideas, activities, schedules, organizations, attendees and budgets contemplated for the proposed celebration.

Invited Guests will include the Governor, Members of the Select Board, the Officers of the Marginal Way Preservation Fund, the Members of the Marginal Way Committee and the Press.

The celebration period will be conducted in June 2025 from the schedule proposed by the Ogunquit Chamber of Commerce as part of their Spring Festival.

The noted ecologist, Prof Doug Tallamy from the Univ of Delaware, will speak at a lecture on the positive relationship between trees, plants, insects and animals in the Town's Greenways.

The story of the Marginal Way could be published and offered for sale to the public

The topics addressed in the booklet could include: the 2025 Marginal Way Vision, the Wildness Theme, Guide to the Marginal Way Plant Population . the Threat of Invasives and Removal Efforts, Development of resident's positive view of interaction between local trees, insects, birds and plants . the Physical Evolution of the Marginal Way, In Season Maintenance Schedules and Costs, Upgrades, Effects of Increased Storm Frequencies and Sea Rise, Impact of Increased Visitor Traffic on the Marginal Way, Extending the Useful Life of the Marginal Way by conducting a Sustainability Assessment which would identify Vulnerabilities and the provide for the design of corrective actions.

Specifics will be developed over the next year.

4.Comprehensive Plan - Joan Griswold

The Chair sent a letter to the Comprehensive Plan Committee with the initial Committee comments to the questions posed regarding the future of the Marginal Way Committee.

G. Adjournment

No Public Comments were noted.

The next meeting of the Marginal Way Committee will be held from 1PM to 3PM on October 3, 2022.