

MINUTES OCPC 5-23-2016 – Approved

Attended:

Darryl Bagley, Alternate	No	Dexter Johnson, Chair	Yes
Jean Bagley	Yes	Alvion Kimball	Yes
John Bradford	Yes	George MacLeod, Co-Chair	No
Daphne Bradford, Secretary	Yes	Mike Malenfant	No
Sharon Bray	Yes	Tom Martin, HCPC	Yes
Connie Brown	No	Bart McGraw	Yes
Cheri Domina	Yes	Andy Odeen	No
Ralph Gonzales, Selectman	No	Mary O’Shea	No
John Greenman, Alternate	No	Ed Rankin, Selectman	Yes
Katie Greenman,	Yes	Les Stackpole, Selectman	Yes
Bart Hutchins	Yes		

Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

MINUTES:

Johnson motioned to review and approve the minutes of April 25, 2016. Bart Hutchins approved the motion and Katie Greenman seconded it. The minutes were approved as written.

CHAIR REPORT:

Dexter announced that he and Tom Martin of Hancock County Planning Commission (HCPC) communicated last week to clarify how various electronic files are named. He invited the committee to review, question, and comment on the two chapters that Tom presented entitled “Population & Demographics” and “Economy.”

NEW BUSINESS:

Tom’s data of the two chapters showed that while Orland’s population growth rate has slowed, the aging population is on the increase. Key issues of employment opportunities, encouragement of economic development and tourism were discussed as possible ways to promote the town’s economy. Following discussion, Tom Martin offered to revise the two chapters as well as all 14 chapters. His intention is to include more facts and figures for Orland as well as surrounding towns. He said that more data and revisions will result

in a clearer, bigger picture showing trends developing not only in Orland but surrounding towns as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cheri Domina reported that the final April 30, 2016 draft of the OCPC survey questions are now in the hands of the HCPC and Tom Martin will review and finalized them before mailing to townspeople. Following discussion, it was unanimously agreed to do a mass mailing of the survey questions in September 2016.

ALVION KIMBALL REPORT:

Alvion Kimball, Chair of the Waterfront Committee, reported that the committee is exploring methods to obtain legal easements on privately owned property for access to the waterfront for paddle ways, pedestrian trails and bicycle paths. The committee hopes to consult with lawyers and the “Street Smarts” program to help design bike and pedestrian paths in the village of Orland. He added that “East Coast Greenways” is marking out bike routes for their annual bike tour program, parts of which will pass through the town of Orland.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Concerning Orland’s population and economy one citizen announced that after a discussion with a Bucksport Realtor she understood that buyers are beginning to look at the Bucksport area to purchase property. She opined that Belfast real estate is growing more expensive and therefore we may experience “coastal creep.” She also added that Maine Maritime Academy moving into the Verso plant site will create more employment opportunities for the area and Alvion’s focus on bike and pedestrian paths will make the town of Orland more appealing to many.

The next meeting is scheduled for **June 27, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.**, at the Orland Community Center. Public is invited to attend. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Daphne L. Bradford
Secretary