

# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: January 6, 2022

(\*\* = town manager; \* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Code enforcement officer; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Bill Shane\*\*; Bill Longley ++; Tom Gruber + (abs); Mark Segrist +; Allison Foster+

To: Members:

Jennifer Bell (abs)

George Turner

<sup>(F)</sup> Ted Chadbourne

<sup>(T)</sup> Shaun Breton

Matt Grondin (abs)

Pete Wilson

<sup>(F)</sup> Melissa Cott

<sup>(T)</sup> Stephen Fitzgerald

Ellen Hoffman

David Young (abs)

<sup>(F)</sup> \*Denny Gallaudet ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> \*John Jensenius ✓

John Jensenius vice\*

<sup>(F)</sup> John Leavitt

<sup>(T)</sup> Matthew Leclair

Riva Krut

<sup>(F)</sup> Gordon Lichter

<sup>(T)</sup> Brian Stearns

\*Mike Schwindt

<sup>(F)</sup> Linda Putnam ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> John Stewart

<sup>(F)</sup> Sally Stockwell

<sup>(T)</sup> Don Stowell

Climate Action Subcommittee:

Sukie Curtis ✓, Jenn Grasso, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Ivy Frignoca

**Note:** Only members of the Commission and voting members of the subcommittees need attend. "✓" indicates subcommittee member attended Commission meeting.

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting January 5, 2022. Meeting held via Zoom.

- December minutes were approved with a name correction (Rob → Rod Vogel) and the following addition requested by Denny under the Forest Subcommittee section:

On March 23, 2016, Chip Love LPF prepared a Twin Brook Forest Management Plan for 2016-2029. The Subcommittee strongly recommends that this plan be updated to incorporate the Guiding Principles, strengthen the invasive control program and validate the growth/yield projections. Until the update, new harvesting should be managed very conservatively. Pursuant to his 5-year timber harvesting agreement with the Town Council dated October 23, 2017, Jeff Storey is planning for a harvest this winter. Bill Shane indicated that he, Town Forester Paul Larrivee and Jeff Storey have met and are in agreement on the operational details of this winter harvest. This may include clean-up work on Stand 1 which apparently includes trees previously marked but not yet cut.

- Town Council (Allison/ Mark)

- Would like to reuse most of the questions in the 2007 survey to the Town since the survey was professionally done. Need to update adding new areas such as questions regarding composting and sustainability. Also need to remove questions that are no longer relevant. Goal to have the final run through with the councilors late January – early February time frame. Like to message survey to the public through the Crier. Need to get a handle on the vision of the Town since the demographics have changed in the past 15 years.
- Budget process will kick off in six weeks.

- Two new members (Pete Wilson and George Turner) both on the Commission. Introductions of all meeting attendees were made.

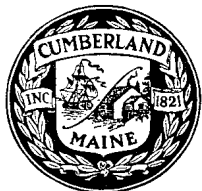


## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

### ○ Commission (Mike)

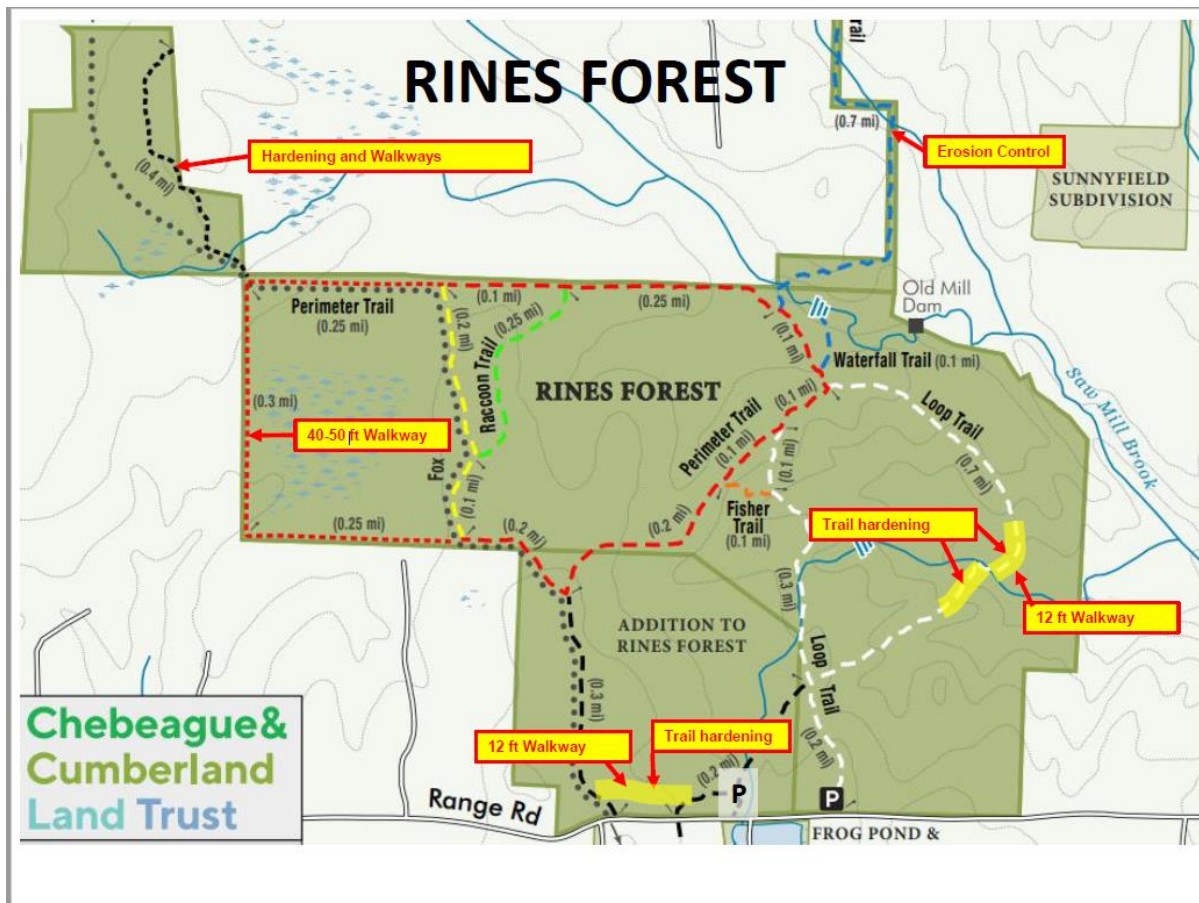
- Bill report (Bill L and summarized from Bill L's notes):
  - During the month of December 2021, 13 permits were issued for a variety of structures such as: pools, sheds, decks, renovations, additions, and solar installations.
  - Oceanview Phase I (Tuttle Rd) under construction; 37 permits have been issued. All but one of the lots has been reserved in Phase I.
  - Christmas Creek – under construction; 19 building permits issued.
  - Orchard Rd - Cortland Court – six building permits issued.
  - Blanchard Oaks – Peaceful Way – three building permits issued with eight lots sold to date per Town Assessor. Base coat of paving was delayed due to weather until spring.
  - Planning Board meeting scheduled for January will include:
    - 10 lot subdivision between I-95 and Old Gray Road in the VMDR zone.
    - Zone change to remove Route 100 from marijuana overlay.
  - Items to be addressed in future Planning Board meeting:
    - Oceanview – proposed revision to storm water plan
    - Coastal Landscaping proposed changes at Middle Road location
    - Update Shoreland Zoning to comply with State changes
    - Update Storm water housekeeping type changes to comply with required changes per Town storm water consultant.
- Election of officers
  - Chair: Mike – unanimous
  - Vice Chair: John – unanimous
  - Secretary: Ellen – unanimous
- Cumberland County Spirit of America Award was awarded to the LCC.
- Mike asked subcommittee chairs to extend their 2021 work plans for six months so we can coincide with the Town's fiscal year.
- Fiscal Items (Mike) –Subcommittees and Commission presented budget proposals for the next three years.
  - Commission – see spreadsheet below.

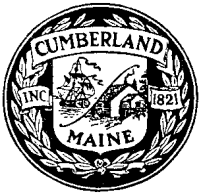
[illegible]



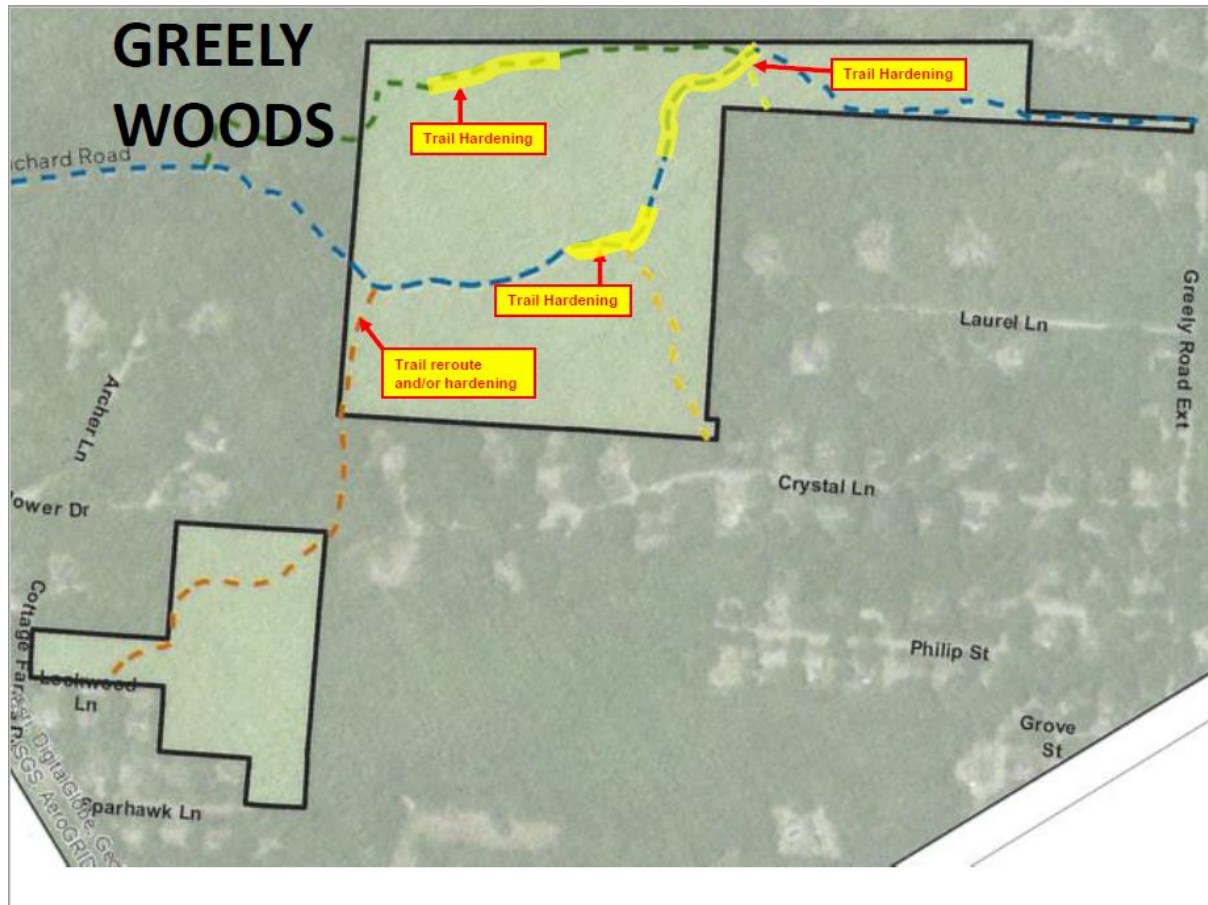
## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Trails – see maps and information below for trail work.



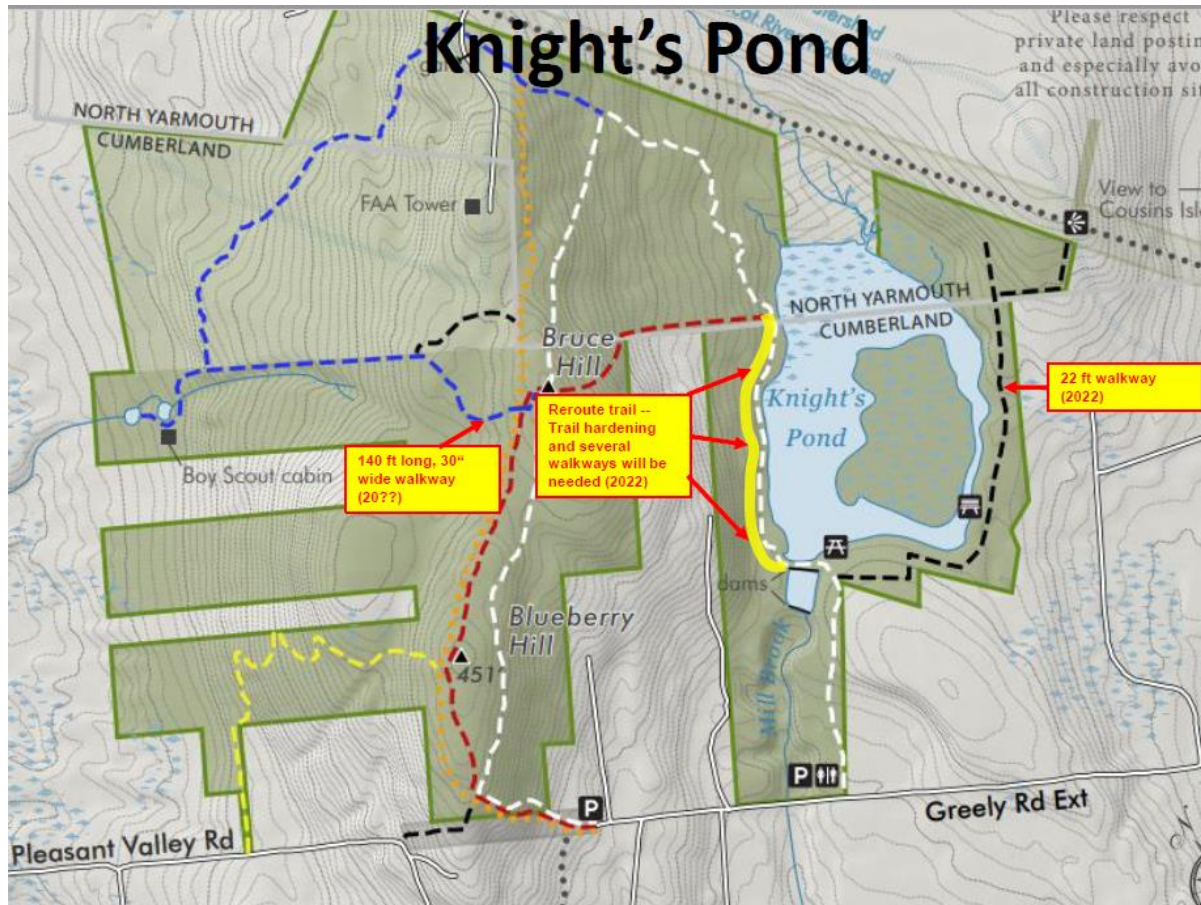


# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)





# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)



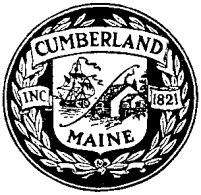
## 2022 Estimated Expenses

Rines Forest including Godsoe property	
200 ft of walkways @ \$12/ft .....	\$2400.
Gravel (currently, no cost).....	\$ 0.
Greely Woods	
Gravel (currently, no cost) .....	\$ 0.
Miscellaneous (signs, map updates, etc) .....	\$ 250.
TOTAL REQUEST .....	\$2650.
Knight's Pond (from JSC budget).....	\$2500.



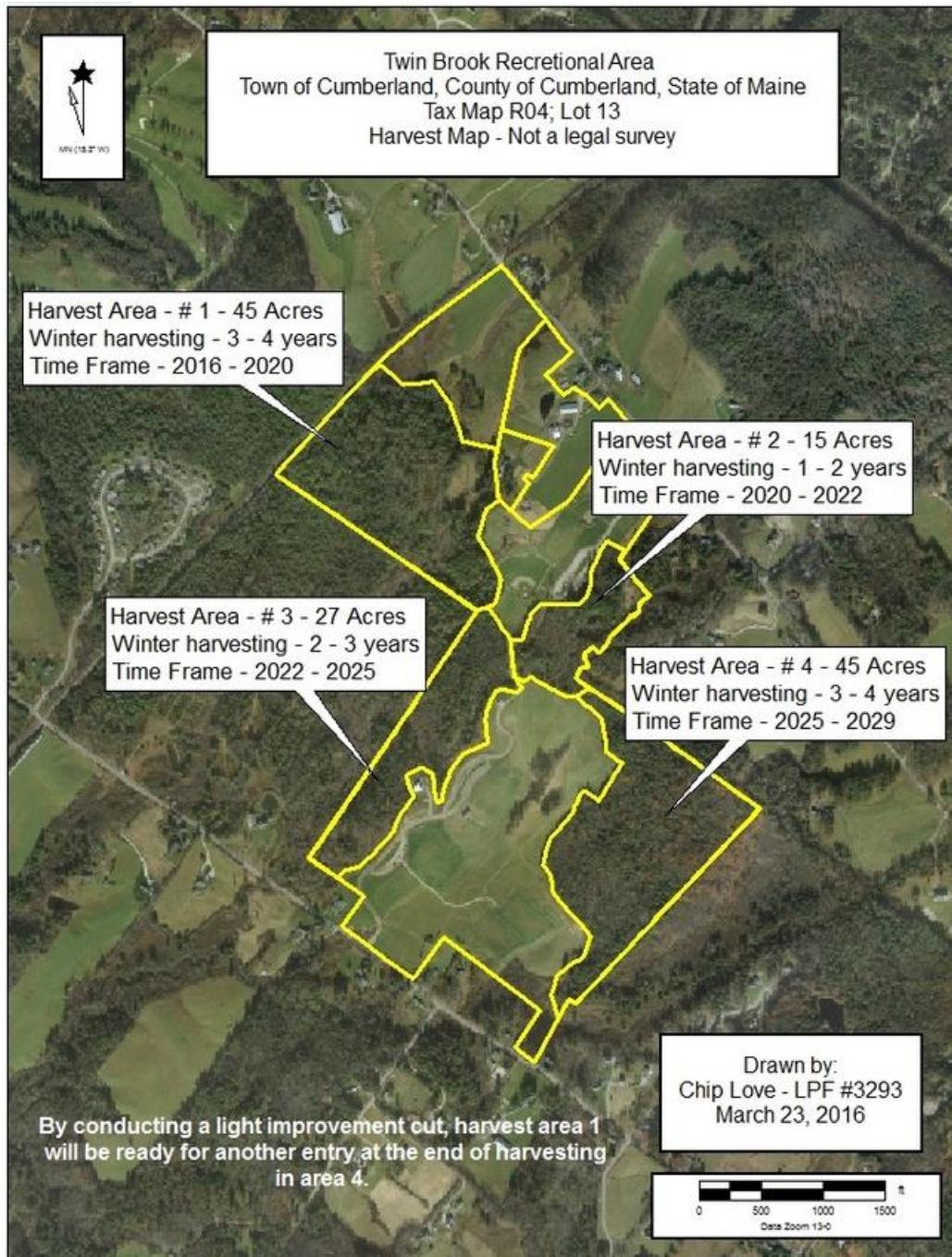
## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Forestry Subcommittee (Denny) requesting money for:
  - Five information signs explaining ecosystems
  - \$400 for professional services for forester
  - Redo forest management plan and take inventory for Twin Brook
  - Blazing boundaries of Rines and Town Forest.
- Climate Action Subcommittee (Denny) requesting money for:
  - Food waste grinder \$80,000
  - Sustainability staff position
  - Engineering study – follow on to Phase I to back-fit existing large buildings with heat pumps. \$6,500 to integrate heat pumps into large building.
- Other (Riva):
  - Lease out Town land to people to farm, cost of land prohibitive. Offer incentives – work with MOFGA.
  - Jr. Farm to Table program – get junior and high school kids involved. Similar to program in North Yarmouth.
  - Bill mentioned that there is no agriculture or farming component to LCC. Streamline of permitting for farm related projects. Need to expand refrigeration to extend life of produce.
- Climate Action Subcommittee (Mike) – Charter was for a two years. Has a strong sustainability component. Mike asked the subcommittee to draft a charter under a new umbrella without a termination date.
- Mike requested members to look at the subcommittees and let him know if any interest in join another.
- Recreational Trails Subcommittee - (John)
  - Rines Forest
    - New walkway extended in Rines leading from new parking lot. The parking lot has been plowed and is ready for use.
    - Rines has updated trail markers/colors to provide a consistent “through trail”. The printed maps have been updated to show new colors and to correctly locate streams. Maps at kiosk needs to be updated
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Denny)
  - Twin Brook harvest - The subcommittee had discussed the benefits of foregoing the 2021-22 harvest, primarily to update the 2016 Forest Management Plan to ensure compliance with the guiding principles and mitigate risk of invasives. Jeff Storey mentioned in their meeting that this was the final year of the five-year contract with the Town Council to harvest in Twin Brook and that foregoing the harvest would be a financial hardship for him. Paul Larrivee had met with both Jeff and Bill Shane to design a sustainable harvest plan for this winter; and Paul will act as



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

the consulting forester for the harvest plan. The Forestry Subcommittee voted to approve the 2021-2022 Twin Brook timber harvest. Denny was questioned about the use of horse or oxen team for low impact harvesting, but said that such teams are hard to come by and that Jeff uses smaller equipment which has less impact. See harvest map below:



- Climate Action Subcommittee (Riva) –
  - Phase II report still in draft. Contains recommendations for action concentrating mostly on residence and also the business sector.



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Report divided into goals (the big picture) and targets – how to reach the goals. Format was chosen to show issues, what has the Town done to address these issues and what can be done now and going forward.
- Shows need of a sustainability coordinator (full time staff position) who can turn interest and energy of community into action. The science is moving quickly; need to stay on top of best practices. Need technical expertise, funding and coordination with other towns.
- Goal 2 (50% reduction in GHG – chart shows possible to go climate positive through different methods. See summary below.
- Denny stressed that they are learning as they go: sustainable lawns where lawns make up 25% or area of the Town. There are ways to manage lawns and lawn care to make your property more sustainable and more biodiverse. Co-benefits. Need to educate public on this issue, variety of habits (both flowers and trees) benefit pollinators. Ellen mentioned that work is being done in this area at Val Halla through the Monarchs in the Rough program and pollinator gardens (Mike and Ellen manage one close to the clubhouse).
- Allison – brought up the issue of commuters and the amount of driving. Has this changed due to COVID-19? COG uses cell phone data to track mileage.
- Members should review draft and submit changes to Riva by Jan 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Phase II Goals and Actions & Targets

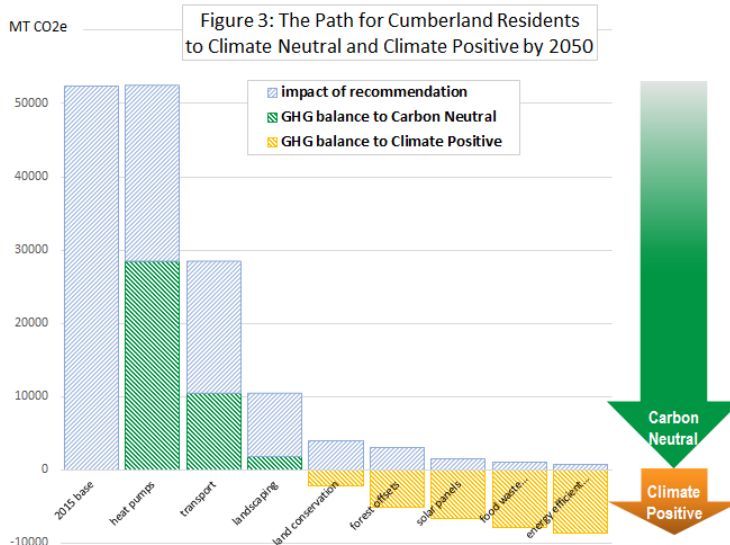
The CAPS proposes the following Goals:

1. Further promote actions to promote the brand of Sustainable Cumberland. Create a permanent Sustainability Committee for the Town, coordinated by a fulltime new Town Sustainability Coordinator.
2. 50% GHG reduction of Cumberland residential footprint of by 2030; climate neutral by 2050. Aspire to be climate positive by 2050.

To achieve the second Goal of Phase II:

- The CAPS recommends the actions or Targets on the right of this slide for approval by the Town Council.
- They are presented in rank order, ranking highest those actions we estimate have greater potential to avoid Greenhouse Gases (measured in Carbon Dioxide equivalents [CO<sub>2</sub>e]).

	2015 base	Heat pumps	Transport	Landscaping	Land conservation	Forest offsets	Solar panels	Food Waste Composting	Energy Efficient Buildings
GHG balance	52,373	28,378	10,378	1,878	(2,122)	(5,122)	(6,680)	(7,802)	(8,162)
Impact of action	52,373	24,000	18,000	8,500	4,000	3,000	1,558	1,122	810





## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Invasive plants (Mike) – no update
- Farmland assessment (Dave) – No update
- Other business
  - There has been no update if the kiosk project has been approved.
  - John and Ellen are still waiting on a read-only GIS app from Judy in order to highlight to committee members the trail/sidewalk GIS work that has been done to date.
- Next meeting February 2nd - 7:00 PM. Zoom or in person –TBD.