

TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: April 8, 2022

(** = town manager; * = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++ = Code enforcement officer; (T) = trails SC; (F) = forest SC)

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

To: Members:

Jennifer Bell (abs)	*Mike Schwindt	(F) Ted Chadbourne	(T) Shaun Breton
Denny Gallaudet	George Turner	(F) Melissa Cott	(T) Stephen Fitzgerald
Matt Grondin	Pete Wilson (abs)	(F) John Leavitt	(T) *John Jensenius ✓
Ellen Hoffman	David Young	(F) *Gordon Lichter ✓	(T) Matthew Leclair
John Jensenius vice*		(F) Linda Putnam	(T) Brian Stearns
Riva Krut		(F) Todd Ontl ✓ ((T) John Stewart
		(F) Sally Stockwell	(T) Don Stowell

Sustainability Subcommittee:

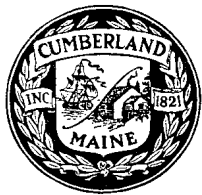
Sukie Curtis, Jenn Grasso, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Ivy Frignoca

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

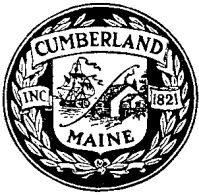
Re: Meeting April 6, 2022. Meeting held via Zoom. Rod Vogel and Jonathan Dawson from CCLT also attended.

- March minutes were approved as written.
- Mike welcomed Denny to the Commission and Todd Ontl to the Forest Subcommittee.
- **Town Council** (Mark)
 - Survey responses are coming in; finalize middle of April; should be able to share results in the May or June meeting.
 - Council has signed on to a letter to encourage MSAD51 to explore solar farms and to power schools using solar. Initial meeting between interested parties to be held shortly.
- **Commission** (Mike)
 - Bill report (summarized from Bill L's notes):
 - During the month of March 2022, 32 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; 40 permits have been issued. All lots have been reserved in Phase I.
 - Christmas Creek – under construction; 19 building permits issued.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Orchard Rd - Cortland Court – seven building permits issued.
- Blanchard Oaks – Peaceful Way – six building permits issued and all 13 lots are sold or pending sale per the developer. Base coat of paving was delayed due to weather until spring.
- Planning Board meeting scheduled for April will include:
 - The “Mark” (previously Broad Cove Ridge) – 45 apartments amendment for changes and new design and to reduce parking for fewer units.
 - Update Shoreland Zoning to comply with State changes.
 - Coastal Landscaping proposed changes at Middle Road location in storage areas and parking.
- Items to be addressed in future Planning Board meeting:
 - Oceanview Phase II – proposed revision to storm water plan - Staff
 - 10-Lot subdivision between 1-95 & Old Gray Road in the VMDR zone.
 - Maine Standards – small expansion for refrigeration at read and renovation of existing building.
 - Possible subdivision Wyatt property 5-7 single family lots – behind Docs Café & Marketplace.
- Heat pumps permits issued calendar YTD = 58
- Solar permits issued calendar YTD = 08
- Denny raised the issue that Blanchard Oaks was supposed to a Conservation Subdivision and open space was supposed to be conservation easement not going to the home owners association. He (Denny) attended the Planning Board meetings and thought that the current situation was not what was agreed to in the meeting as condition of final approval. Bill will review findings of Planning Board.
- Budget (Mike) – LCC requesting \$112,000 for fiscal 2023. Waiting for Town Council to finalize. See LCC FY 2023 submitted budget below. (**Note:** The total below does not include cost for the compost grinder.)



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

Lands and Conservation Commission FY 2023 Budget Request						
ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	DESCRIPTION	COST	2023	2024	Explanation
0631-1010	PT Payroll	CLIMATE ACTION - Sustainability staff position			TBD	
		CLIMATE ACTION - Lawn pilot Program	\$5,000		TBD	Pilot program for sustainable lawns (100 pilot lawns) CAP II
		FOOD INDEPENDENCE - Raised beds	\$500			start with five - skyline - Materials Only
0633-3080	Landscaping	FOOD INDEPENDENCE - Orchard	\$5,000	\$10,500		25 x \$200 per plant
		TOWN FOREST - "Recent sightings" display	\$250			For app (100) and photos.
		TOWN FOREST - signs	\$250			
		TOWN FOREST - kiosk maps	\$1,200			Need for 6 Kiosks under construction
		TRAILS - Miscellaneous	\$250			Signs, map updates, etc.
		FORESTRY - Five informational signs	\$2,000			
0633-3160	Misc Expenses	FOOD INDEPENDENCE - Locate resources for acquiring easements, rights of refusal, etc. for potential food production	\$2,000	\$5,950	TBD	10 hours x \$200 Legal Time
0633-3410	Capital Outlay	CLIMATE ACTION - Compost grinder	**			**2-3 year pay back - CAP II- TMR now probably \$45k from Capital
		GPS TRAILS - Consultant time	TBD			
		FORESTRY - Town Forester meeting attendance	\$1,100			
		FORESTRY - Town Forester Twin Brook plan update	\$5,500			
		FORESTRY - Invasives grant proposal	\$1,500			
		FORESTRY - Town Forester boundary blazing at Twin Brook, Rines	\$3,200			
0635-5000	Contracted Services	Invasive Management	\$10,000	\$21,300		
0635-5090	Engineering	CLIMATE ACTION - Engineering study			TBD	Heat pump for library
		TRAILS - Rines Forest Including Godsoe Property	\$2,400			200 Feet of Walkway
		TRAILS - Greely Woods	\$400			Gravel (currently, no cost) 20 yd s x \$20
		TRAILS - Knight's Pond	\$2,500			\$2,500 from JSC budget
0635-5100	Grounds Maintenance		\$4,400	\$9,700		
		2022 LCC FY 2023 budget request		\$47,450		
Note:						
TBD - To Be Determined						

○ Sustainability Subcommittee (Riva)

- The two goals of Phase 1 have been accepted:
 - Town and schools - zero GGE by 2030
 - Rebrand Sustainable Cumberland
- Phase 2 goals and actions (see chart below):
 - Create a permanent sustainability subcommittee
 - Create a position for a sustainability coordinator
 - Goal to be climate neutral or climate positive by 2050. To achieve this, residents can:
 - Install heat pumps
 - Switch to EVs
 - Use low carbon landscaping
 - Promote conservation land in town
 - Forest offsets
- Matt made motion to forward Phase 2 CAP report to Town Council and MSAD51 board for action; Denny second; unanimous approval.
- Denny mentioned that we need to keep track of actions that have already been approved.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

Phase II Goals and Actions & Targets

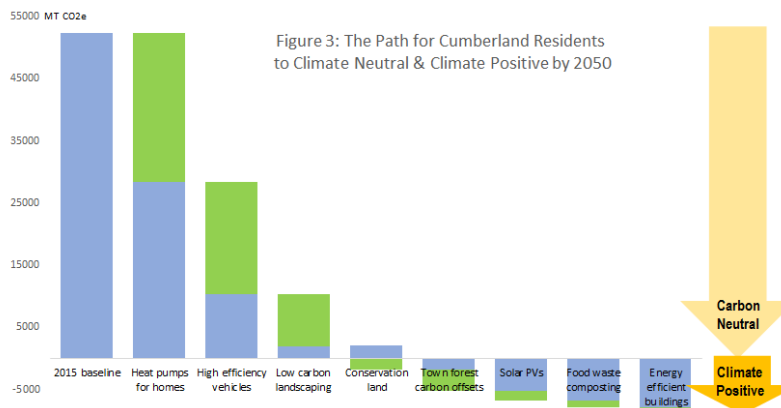
The CAPS proposes the following Goals:

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:

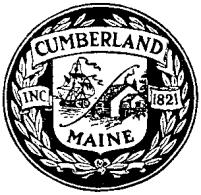
- The CAPS recommends the actions or Targets on the right of this slide for approval by the Town Council.
- They are presented in rank order, ranking highest those actions we estimate have greater potential to avoid Greenhouse Gases (measured in Carbon Dioxide equivalents [CO₂e]).

	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



○ Recreational Trails Subcommittee - (John)

- Trail standards – Pete presented his ideas for changes to Cumberland's Trail Construction and Maintenance Standards at the Trails Subcommittee meeting. After discussing Pete's ideas, the subcommittee decided to not make any changes to the Standards at this time.
- Snow dog grooming – with very little snow this winter, the Trails Subcommittee recommends that the trial period be extended for another year. Rod got some positive feedback while out on the trails. Expect a motion at the May meeting.
- Kiosks – The lumber has been purchased and delivered to the scout for his Eagle Scout project. The kiosks should be ready in the next month or two.
- Online trail mapping – we are close to having the online trail mapping available to the public.
- Greely Woods Subdivision Recreational Easement – The subdivision plan for the Greely Woods Subdivision (Oak Ridge Rd, Acorn Lane and Woods Circle) includes a 20 ft. recreational easement along the southeast side of the subdivision. However, the written documentation for the easement describing allowed and prohibited uses was never completed. John is working with property owners to try and get a written easement documentation completed.
- Knight's Pond
 - The Trails Subcommittee will be pin-flagging a proposed reroute of the White Trail on the northwest side of the pond this week. They also hope to complete a walkway on the southeast side of the pond in early May.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- During the late winter, someone unauthorized, cut numerous branches along the northwest side of the pond. Any cutting of vegetation in Knight's Pond needs the approval of the Joint Standing Committee. Should the Forest Subcommittee properly trim the trees that were cut?
- Greely Woods – Several areas are soft and wet. Trail hardening will be needed to make these trails sustainable.
- Rines Forest – The Town will work to revitalize several trails in Rines Forest when the ground dries out sufficiently. Trails saw heavy use especially when Falmouth closed some of their trails. There was no work this winter done on the Perimeter Trail.
- Town Forest (Ellen) – One culvert next to the salt shed has been installed; a second culvert behind the salt shed has been put into position and waiting for ground to dry out enough to finish installation.
- **Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Gordon)**
 - Remediation at Knights Pond
 - Gordon visited the site at the end of Greely Rd with John, Ted (Parks Dept.) and Chris (Asst. Town Manager)
 - The amount of ledge on the hill limits the options
 - It was agreed that at least one of the many redundant trails should be closed
 - Need to explore options to control hillside runoff. Options include:
 - Shunting water into the woods before the bottom of the hill, but that could direct the water into the yards of neighbors downstream;
 - Create a channel to control the flow and erosion and possibly enlarging the culvert at the bottom of the hill
 - Harvest needs could influence course of action
 - Gordon to schedule another site walk with the same group along with the Paul (forester) to give Chris and Ted a better idea about the harvest.
 - Project Canopy - Submissions were not made due to miscommunication and budget.
 - Invasive Grant Proposal
 - Three submissions made thanks to John!
 - Paul believes we should hear back by early May
 - Town Forest – Mike is going to walk through in the next week or so; no grinding has occurred this winter despite plans to do it due to a variety of reasons.
 - Twin Brook Harvest Update
 - Jeff and crew likely only worked for 1.5 weeks on the harvest and got 20-25 cords of wood plus a load of pulp
 - Paul walked through the cut area and felt that they had done a decent job following his recommendations as well as stump sites and slash management.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Paul spoke with Jeff and they are done with the work for now until the ground firms up and they can do the closeout.
- There are still some hazard trees that could be dealt with during closeout.
- Rines Forest and Knight's Pond – Paul will make Sally's requested (minor) changes to Rines Forest and Knight's Pond management plans.
- **Invasive plants** (Mike) – Need to gauge interest in community involvement in controlling the spread of invasive plants in the forest and ditches around Town. Need to map to see extent and come up with plans to manage.
- **Farmland assessment** (Dave) – No update
- **New Business**
 - Will meet via Zoom until at least July
 - Jonathan Dawson – CCLT's contract steward was introduced
 - Rod Vogel mentioned two active projects that CCLT is working on:
 - LongWoods Preserve a 54.5 – acre property between Route 9 and the East Branch of the Piscataqua River and
 - The Read Family Farm a 54-acre property on Blanchard Road
- Next meeting May 4th - 7:00 PM via Zoom.