

# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: February 3, 2023

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

Chris Bolduc (abs); Bill Longley ++ (abs); Mark Segrist+ (abs); Tig Filson+

To: Members:

David Cowan

Pete Wilson

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

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

Denny Gallaudet

David Young

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

<sup>(T)</sup> Paige Diamant

Ellen Hoffman

<sup>(F)</sup> \*Gordon Lichter ✓

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

John Jensenius <sup>vice\*</sup>

<sup>(F)</sup> Todd Ontl

<sup>(T)</sup> David Grimm

Riva Krut

<sup>(F)</sup> Linda Putnam

<sup>(T)</sup> \*John Jensenius ✓

\*Mike Schwindt

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

<sup>(T)</sup> Walker Newell

Joshua Steirman (abs)

<sup>(T)</sup> Adam Orellana

George Turner

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

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

Sustainability Subcommittee

Sukie Curtis, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent ✓, Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Meddy Smith, Dave Witherill

Invasives Subcommittee:

Ellen Hoffman, John Jensenius, Mike Schwindt

Farmland Subcommittee:

John Jensenius, Mike Schwindt, Bill Shane, Bob Vail, David Young

**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 February 1, 2023

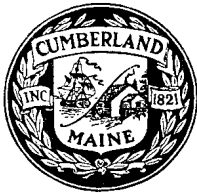
- January minutes were approved as written.
- Mike welcomed David Cowan to Commission.
- Town Council report (Tig)
  - Town Hall being closed due to inclement weather has caused scheduling changes. Budget workshops have shifted (no new schedule given). There will be a workshop prior to the February Council meeting to discuss recommendations on affordable housing presented by Cumberland Affordable Housing Task Force.
  - Tig and Mike attended a coastal waters presentation discussing sea level rise and the effects that will have on coastal communities. Denny mentioned that the expected 1 to 1 ½ foot rise in high tide level should not affect Cumberland due to the beach layout at Broad Cove. The exposed eel grass beds and at end of Broad Cove will be under water.
  - Tig mentioned more storage racks may be built for canoe and kayak storage at Broad Cove.
  - Denny mentioned that 200 heat pumps were permitted in 2022. He mentioned that new construction is so tight that no backup heat source are installed along with the heat pumps.



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### ○ Bill Report (from Bills email)

- During the month of December 2022 and January 2023 Bill's office issued 17 and 17 permits respectively for new buildings such as for pools, sheds, decks, houses, condos, barns, additions, renovations, commercial and solar installations.
- Oceanview phase 1 (Tuttle Rd) -completed or under construction 52-permits have been issued to date. All lots are reserved in phase 1.
- Oceanview phase 2- culverts are in place prior to 10-01-2022
- Christmas Creek – Vining Way -all under construction or completed
- Orchard Road – Cortland Court – 7 building permits issued as of this date
- Blanchard Oaks – Peaceful Way- all lots are under construction or completed
- Snowy Owl off Old Gray Road –10 Units approved
- The Mark off Route One– 45 units approved; site work started with blasting
- Ross Estates off Blanchard Road Ext.-3 Units approved
- Yarmouth Vet at Heritage Village
- The Grange at Longwoods-Building permit issued; work has started
- White Rock off Skyview Drive – 55 units of senior housing.
- Planning Board meeting scheduled for February 21, 2023, will include:
  - Lot split of existing subdivision by amendment at 104 Foreside Road
  - Major Site Plan amendment for LGC Clinical (Maine Std's) ground mounted solar just North of existing building at Route One near Powell Road. **Note:** this has subsequently been moved to March.
- Future Planning Board items:
  - Rusty Lantern- Food Mart and new bank at Gray Road
  - Dave Chase Pit possible commercial / residential off Blackstrap Road
  - Harris Road split of three lot subdivision in planning stage
  - Town antenna and carrier cell towers off Range Road and Blackstrap Road.
- Heat pump, solar, car charger permits (2022)
  - Heat pumps issued calendar YTD = 206
  - Solar issued calendar YTD = 055
  - Car chargers issued calendar YTD = 009
- Heat pump, solar, car charger permits (2023)
  - Heat pumps issued calendar YTD = 018
  - Solar issued calendar YTD = 004
  - Car chargers issued calendar YTD = 003



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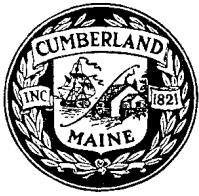
### ○ Commission (Mike)

- Appointments to Sustainability Committee: Denny made motion for LCC to set terms of office for members to the Sustainability Subcommittee. Riva second; pass unanimously.
- Forest Carbon Reserve (Gordon) – The Forest Subcommittee was tasked by the Sustainability Subcommittee to come up with 225 acres in the Town to not be harvested until 2050 to meet the CAP carbon storage goals. The list totaling 246 acres includes:
  - Rines Forest Reserve area (67 acres)
  - Greely Woods (38 acres)
  - Crossing Brook (31 acres)
  - Sunnyfield (24 acres)
  - Broad Cove (22 acres)
  - Westbranch Road (21 acres)
  - Valley Road (Homestead) (20 acres)
  - Blanchard Oaks (23 acres)

Motion from Gordon: I move that the Lands and Conservation Commission accept the below list of town-owned forests recommended by the Forestry Subcommittee to be enshrined in the Climate Action Plan as reserved and not to be subject to harvest or other removals until at least 2050 as per the Climate Action Plan.

Forested Area	Acreage
Rines Forest reserve area	67
Greely Woods	38
Crossing Brook	31
Sunnyfield	24
Broad Cove	22
Westbranch Road	21
Homestead	20
Blanchard Oaks	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246</b>

Should any of the sites on this list experience an unforeseen event or should circumstances arise that would substantially reduce the expected increase in carbon sequestration or carbon storage during this ~30 year time period, and/or would require active management (i.e. removal of trees) on the part of the town, the town could either supplement the list with some of the additional 750 acres of forestland the town currently owns, or delete those affected acres from this list in exchange for adding some of those other 750 acres. Because all town forestland is managed to adhere to the Town of Cumberland Forest Management Guiding Principles – which encourage the growth of diverse, structurally complex, older



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forests that store more carbon – this should result in a fair and reliable exchange that would still allow the town to meet its sustainability goals.

Denny seconded; passed unanimously.

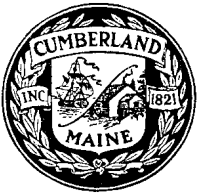
- Twin Brook Harvesting (Gordon) –

Motion from Gordon: I move that the Lands and Conservation Commission accept Town Forester, Paul Larrivee's letter and Sally Stockwell's cover letter (below), about the potential harvest at Twin Brook this winter and submit them to the Town Council, together with the Forestry Subcommittee's original memo on the same topic from 2022 for their consideration and action.

Denny second. Discussion:

- What to do going forward? Cut or don't cut (Greely Rd side)
- Paul would create a harvest plan if Town wants to harvest
- Issue of opening up canopy will allow invasive plants to spread.

Motion carries



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)



207 Forestry Consulting Services, LLC

P.O. Box 181

New Gloucester, Maine 04260

207-431-6153

Paul L Larrivee, Jr. LF 3306

To: Cumberland Town Council  
From: Paul Larrivee, Town Forester  
Re: Twin Brook Harvesting Winter 2023  
Date: January 5, 2023

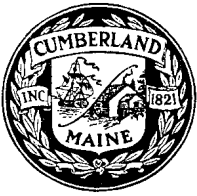
I have walked through the past several winters timber harvest area. There is remaining marked timber which could be harvested if the cold weather comes. I roughly estimate 15-20 cords of timber which could be harvested. Some of the volume are softwood hazard trees along the recreation trails. While not great for firewood, they really should be removed while the softwood pulp market is currently favorable.

The Forestry Subcommittee has reviewed the area with me. One of the concerns is that my tree marking paint color is the same as the forester who Jeff hired originally to mark the timber. Jeff and the Forestry Subcommittee agreed to leave some of the trees that forester marked, especially closer to the riparian areas. In order to assure no confusion with the paint occurs, I have agreed to re-mark my trees with a different color paint (color to be discussed with Jeff).

As well, I have blazed and painted (red paint) the "no-cut" line as required by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. No wood has been cut in the no harvest area.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul L Larrivee, LF 3306



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

### MEMO

To: Cumberland Lands and Conservation Commission  
From: Forestry Subcommittee of the CLCC  
Re: Harvesting at Twin Brook 2023  
Date: 15 January 2023

Dear Commission Members,

The Forestry Subcommittee of the Cumberland Lands and Conservation Commission walked the Twin Brook Harvest Area 1 with our Town Forester Paul Larrivee late last year to review the potential for additional harvesting in that area by Jeff Storey during 2023 as we all discussed at the Town Council workshop and public hearing last fall.

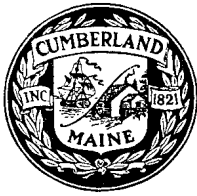
Paul has since returned to the site to evaluate how many and which trees could be cut if harvesting were to continue. As you will see in his attached letter, Paul has found roughly 15-20 cords of timber (including around 10 cords of firewood and 10 cords of softwood pulp), that could be harvested if the ground ever freezes solidly enough for equipment to move in.

In order to avoid any confusion with previous markings, if the town and Jeff decide to move forward with a harvest, Paul will paint each tree to be cut with a new paint color before the harvest begins.

Sincerely,

Sally Stockwell  
Vice-Chair, Forestry Subcommittee

- Budget (Mike) – Mike distributed copies of the requested FY2024 budget (see below). He mentioned that any unused money can be carried over to the following year. Denny mentioned that there is money available through the Federal Infrastructure Act, could possibly use for support staff to help with grants 15 hours/month.

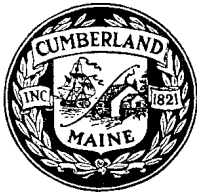


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ACCOUNT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Budget	FY2024 PROPOSED	\$ Change
0633-3160	Misc Conse	\$17,131	\$30,367	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$-
0633-3550	Non-Profits	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$-
		\$18,131	\$31,367	\$80,000	\$80,000	\$-
Miscellaneous costs						
Commission						
Invasives					5,000	
GPCOG contracted services					10,000	
Recent sightings display					250	
Food independence					2,000	
Signage					650	
						17,900
Trails						
Walkways (300' @ \$15)					4,500	
Gravel (35 yards @ \$20)					700	
Signage					300	
						5,500
Sustainability						
Carbon footprint of commercial sector survey					3,500	
Demonstration forest					5,000	
						8,500
Forester						
Meeting attendance					1,100	
Invasive grant proposal					1,500	
Twin Brook Plan update					5,500	
						8,100
Total						40,000

- Work plans – Mike requested subcommittees have workplans ready by next month. Need to have a recap of 2023 and plans for 2024 fiscal years.
- Casco Bay Estuary Partnership proposal (Riva) – There were already planned workshops later in the year for Lawns Gone Wild to educate landowners on the benefits of native species and leaving part of their lawn wild (less grass). The Sustainability Subcommittee saw the Casco Bay estuary Partnership proposal as a good way to educate landowners on the effects of runoff on the health of the Bay. Idea to supplement the planned workshops to include this information. Work with the associations and neighbors close to the Bay. Ivy (Casco Bay Baykeeper) sent a letter of recommendation for this proposal (see below).





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**Friends of Casco Bay**  
**Casco BAYKEEPER**

January 30, 2023

Re: "Lawns Gone Wild" Grant Proposal to Casco Bay Estuary Partnership –  
Friends of Casco Bay Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Bohlen and Ms. Blair,


Friends of Casco Bay submits this letter in support of the Town of Cumberland's "Lawns Gone Wild" grant proposal. For over 30 years, our organization has worked closely with CBEP and other partners throughout the watershed to identify and reduce sources of nutrient pollution through education, local ordinances, Clean Water Act permits, and steps to develop state-wide nutrient criteria. Excess nutrients, primarily phosphorus and nitrogen, stimulate algal growth to such an extent that it becomes harmful and leads to degradation of our freshwater tributaries and coastal waters of Casco Bay.

Cumberland's Town Council recently adopted a climate action plan. In relevant part, that plan recognizes that nutrient loading is degrading, or has the potential to degrade, waters within town boundaries. For example, excess nitrogen contributes to loss of eelgrass and ecosystem function. Broad Cove hosts one of the healthiest eelgrass beds in Casco Bay, and increased nitrogen input from lawn fertilizers could cause this bed to degrade. The town climate action plan also recognizes that nutrient loading will likely increase as Maine experiences more intense rain events, secondary to climate change, increasing the likelihood of nearshore degradation.

As a first step, the Town seeks to hold a series of creative workshops that will leverage the popular program series "Lawns Gone Wild" held at the Town Library. The Town is hoping to supplement this series through this grant and conduct targeted outreach to coastal neighborhoods. Such outreach could have several positive outcomes including a reduction in nutrient loading to coastal waters, an increase in sustainable landscaping practices, and broadened knowledge regarding the benefits and value of a healthy Casco Bay.

We strongly support this refreshing and updated approach to Bayscaping and Yardscaping. It will reach new audiences and could set the stage for a future fertilizer ordinance. The proposal seems to fall squarely within the types of positive impacts that CBEP seeks to fund through its community grants program.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ivy L. Frignoca, Casco Baykeeper  
Friends of Casco Bay

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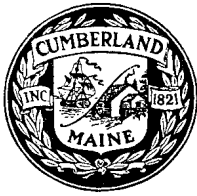
**Casco BAYKEEPER, Emeritus**

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- Document Archival (Mike) – Question as to what happens to all the documents that have accumulated from the town’s forester and other sources. Mike mentioned that Thomas Bennett at the library will archive them. Ellen mentioned that she has turned in at least a dozen binders of old LCC minutes and other material to Bill. What ever happened to them; they should be archived (digitized) as well.
- Textile Recycling (Riva) – Apparel Impact a New Hampshire company has provided textile recycling boxes (90) throughout the state. Many of Cumberland’s neighbors (Yarmouth, Falmouth and Freeport for example) have them. The company will take clothing, sheets, towels etc. What can’t be donated will be repurposed. The company makes roughly 12 runs/week to empty the boxes. Idea is to place five boxes around Cumberland. The company estimates Cumberland could contribute 300 tons/year. Bill S had mentioned to Riva that there was a clothing donation box behind the Town Hall that doesn’t seem to be maintained. Remove this box and start this program in the spring. Motion to this affect will be made next meeting. This request came from a Cumberland resident.
- Trails Subcommittee (John)
  - John mentioned that the kiosk Welcome signs are in and up. There are still a few more signs to come in (Hunting and Dog).
  - The rest of the Trails meeting was working on the 2023 work plan.
- Forestry Subcommittee (Gordon)
  - Forest Carbon reserve (see above under Commission).
  - Rines Forest Management Plan – Will go before Town Council in February for approval.
  - Twin Brook harvest (see above under Commission).
  - Working on draft workplan. Would like to improve communication with Trails Subcommittee.
  - Paul L did timber cruise of Twin Brook.
  - Working on three invasive management plans – not quite sure when they are due.
  - Work on archiving Paul’s notes and documents.
  - Grassland management – Sally working on a summary of recommendations from Ag Allies regarding grassland management as well as policy document.
- Sustainability Subcommittee (Denny)
  - Denny was elected as Chair.



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- Denny mentioned that the professional analysis of the HVAC system in library is coming up.
- Jesse and Sukie along with Mike working on a community orchard. \$13,000 from Community Resilience Partnership Grant available. Use for educational purposes, demonstrations and workshops. Looking at five acres around the salt shed and possibly include the peony and butterfly garden. Public area, fruits and nuts available for public to harvest once orchard is mature. Question regarding nesting birds in front of BFG if grass is mowed for a path around orchard. Should be able to accommodate both. Mention that there is no water on the site. Jesse said that idea of several IBC totes could be kept on site and the town could periodically fill them. Motion will be brought to LCC in future meeting.
- Invasives Subcommittee (Mike)
  - Tentative training session May 6 or May 13 for iMapInvasives. No more details available.
- Farmland (Mike) – Should a new subcommittee be established to work with the Sustainability? Pete questioned if pesticides or fertilizer will be used. Unclear but IPM (integrated pest management) will be the preferred method.
- New Business/coming attractions (Mike)
  - Future for composting
  - Tree City designation
  - Trail Maps

Next meeting – March 1<sup>st</sup> 7pm.