

TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: October 8, 2022

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

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

To: Members:

Jennifer Bell (abs)

David Young

^(F) Melissa Cott

^(T) Shaun Breton ✓

Ellen Hoffman

^(F) John Leavitt

^(T) Stephen Fitzgerald

John Jensenius vice*

^(F) *Gordon Lichter ✓

^(T) David Grimm

Riva Krut (abs)

^(F) Todd Ontl

^(T) *John Jensenius ✓

*Mike Schwindt

^(F) Linda Putnam ✓

^(T) Walker Newell

Joshua Steirman (abs)

^(F) Sally Stockwell

^(T) Adam Orellana ✓

George Turner (abs)

^(T) Brian Stearns

Pete Wilson (abs)

^(T) John Stewart

^(T) Don Stowell ✓

Sustainability Subcommittee:

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

Invasive 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 October 5, 2022. Meeting held via Zoom. Also attending was Penny Asherman from CCLT.

○ September minutes were approved as written.

○ **Town Council** (Mark)

- After the October 10th Town Council meeting, the Town Council will hold a workshop to discuss 2023 priorities including: sustainability, invasive management plans, Twin Brook management plan and the Town's composting program.
- The Town Council and Planning Board will be holding a workshop on October 26th from 6 to 8 PM to discuss the implications of LD -2003 (municipal zoning) with the town attorney.
- Mark mentioned the addition of several new committee members: Joshua Steirman for the Commission, David Grimm, Walker Newell and Adam Orellana for Trails and Meddy Smith and Dave Witherill for the Sustainability Subcommittee. Mike mentioned that there will be a new draft contact sheet distributed soon for review.
- Twin Brook – Blanchard Rd advisory committee – Mark inquired about the history of the advisory committee. Outside research will be needed since existing member did not know the details.



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○ **Commission** (Mike)

- Hunting and trapping in Knight's Pond will be deferred since Pete is not in attendance.
- Bill report: (Bill L)
 - During the month of September 2022, 20 permits were issued for a variety of structures such as: pools, sheds, decks, renovations, additions, and solar installations. This is the fewest number of new permits since September 2013.
 - Oceanview Phase I (Tuttle Rd) under construction; 50 permits (of the 53 lots) have been issued.
 - Oceanview Phase II – Developer is now reserving units. Culverts were in place prior to October 1, 2022.
 - Christmas Creek – under construction; 19 permits (of the 22 lots) have been issued.
 - Orchard Rd - Cortland Court – 7 building permits (of the 10 lots) have been issued.
 - Blanchard Oaks – Peaceful Way – 13 building permits issued.
 - Ross Estates off Blanchard Rd Ext. – three units approved.
 - Snowy Owl off Old Gray Rd – 10 units approved.
 - Yarmouth Vet at Heritage Village – Approved at Planning Board, will soon be under construction.
 - The Grange at Longwoods – building permit issued.
 - Planning Board meeting scheduled for October 18, 2022 will include:
 - Site Walk for Rock Terrace apartments off Skyview Drive in Heritage Village.
 - Lakeside Concrete – revision for a request to move dumpster
 - Ordinance changes Public Safety Zone for telecommunications off Range Way near West Cumberland ballfields.
 - Stormwater changes Chapter 242 new articles 3 and 4.
 - Subdivision changes for conservation, stormwater management, foundation drains, and monumentation.
 - Site Plan Review – Stormwater Management.
 - Items to be addressed in future Planning Board meeting:
 - White Rock Terrace – 55 units of senior housing off Skyview Drive at Heritage Village.
 - Rusty Lantern – Food Mart and new bank at Gray Road.



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- Dave Chase pit – possible commercial/residential development off Blackstrap Road.
- Skillin's Greenhouse at Gray Road new storage building roughly 6,000 sf.
- Major-Site Plan amendment for LGC Clinical Diagnostics (formally Maine Standard) ground mounted solar just north of existing building at Route 1 near Powell Road.

- Heat pumps permits issued calendar YTD = 154
- Solar permits issued calendar YTD = 41
- Car Chargers in YTD = 9

○ **Commission** (Mike)

- Welcomed Joshua Steirman to the Commission and reported the Town Council had confirmed our recommendations by appointing David Grimm, Walker Newell and Adam Orellana to Trails. We also welcomed Penny Asherman as the new CCLT Executive Director.
- Mark suggested we consider another appointment to Trails. John to follow up.
- Proposed design for new primary school located in North Yarmouth (Denny) – Denny made motion that the LCC consider endorsing the new school; Gordon seconded. Discussion:
 - John has concern with the price tag, although he likes the sustainability aspects
 - Denny -The solar panels are not included in the price, but the roof will be made solar ready – outside of the bond issue
 - John questioned if there are trails or connections to existing trails. Is the land opened to the public and will it remain forested?
 - Penny mentioned that we do not have permission to use the power lines at this time; only snowmobilers do. Need a license to use land.
 - Royal River Trust would like to create a habitat and recreation corridor: power lines to 115 and power lines to Knight's Pond.
 - Denny - We are endorsing the design, the sustainability aspects, not the cost.
 - John made motion (Don seconded) to change wording to “strongly support sustainability features in primary school design”. Motion carries - unanimous. Amended resolution adopted – unanimous.
- See below for final draft of support of primary school project design



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SUPPORT FOR DESIGN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Lands and Conservation Commission
Cumberland, Maine

WHEREAS the Town of Cumberland has committed to reduce net Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050 to zero and has developed a Climate Action Plan to accomplish this reduction, and

WHEREAS the Climate Action Plan calls for new public buildings to be designed to a zero-carbon standard that integrates cost-effective energy efficiency standards with on-site and off-site renewable energy, and

WHEREAS MSAD 51 has proposed a new Primary School Project ("Project") to provide for recent and forecast growth in student population and to mitigate overcrowding and use of inefficient and costly portable classrooms, and

WHEREAS the Project design is to incorporate advanced efficiency and sustainability features such as photovoltaic solar, enhanced building envelope, day lighting and views, geothermal heating/cooling and low-emitting materials, and

WHEREAS the Project is to be located on 74 acres in North Yarmouth of which over 90% is to be retained in open space, and

WHEREAS this open space is well forested and has soils that are rated primarily as excellent/good for woodland by the United States Department of Agriculture, and

WHEREAS this open space is adjacent to the Cumberland trail network and supports existing wildlife corridors, and

WHEREAS the proposed design of the Project is consistent with a zero-carbon standard, and

WHEREAS the Project is forecast to be climate positive, meaning that annual sequestration of greenhouse gas will exceed emissions,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lands and Conservation Commission strongly supports the sustainability features in the Primary School Project design.

Adopted October 5, 2022

- Planning Board meeting 18th to discuss amendments to the Conservation Subdivision Ordinance. Issue has been prime farmland; need scientific basis to make this decision.
- Received inquiry to have electric bikes available for people to try out, to get people interested in using bikes over cars. Looking for potential sponsor for free or low-cost rental.

○ **Recreational Trails Subcommittee - (John)**

- Kiosks – Andrew Bilodeau (the Life Scout) has completed the five new kiosks for Town parks for his Eagle Scout project. One additional kiosk is in storage for the North Yarmouth side of



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Knight's Pond. Andrew has done a great job. The Town Council should recognize him for his work on this project. The LCC discussed narrowing the width of the boards to the posts and agreed that the narrower board would look better. John will contact Andrew to see whether he wants to trim them or have Public Works do it. John also discussed the need to decide on the materials to include on the kiosk and the layout of the items. John, Ellen, Linda Putnam and Chris Bolduc will work together to come up with a plan.

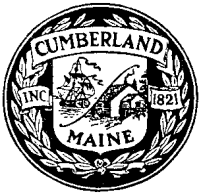


- Kiosks Maps – The maps for the kiosks have been printed. Chris will get a plexiglass cover for each one to limit the possibility of vandalism.
- Park webpages – John will contact Whitney in the next week or so to renew efforts to structure the information on the park webpages.
- Rines Forest – The Trails Subcommittee has completed a 213-ft walkway around a very muddy and rooty section of the Yellow Trail in Rines Forest. Steve Fitzgerald led the effort. The final steps will be to attach short ramps to the ends of the walkway and put some gravel over a particularly rooty section at the end of one of the ramps. There is also a large dead tree leaning over the end of the walkway that should be removed. Public Works will look at the tree when they deliver the gravel.



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- Greely Woods – John is continuing efforts to harden trails in Greely Woods.
- Greely Woods Subdivision – Five of the six property owners have agreed to the proposed trail easement (with some small modifications). Bill and John hope to meet with the sixth property owner in a few weeks.
- **Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Gordon)**
 - Twin Brook
 - Town Council voted unanimously to accept the LCC's recommendation to suspend harvesting in Twin Brook until a plan for invasive species can be implemented; and Jeff Story is permitted to harvest up to, but not exceeding, 25 cords of wood from Area 1 under the direction of the Town Forester, Paul Larrivee.
 - Paul to walk Area 1 noting trees that could be harvested this winter by Jeff.



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- Sally suggested a forest walk with the town councilors to show them what the invasive look like, where they exist at Twin Brook, and what a healthy forest looks like (Knight's Pond).
- Invasives
 - Invasive management plans due in 2023 including mitigation work completed to apply for state funding.
- Knight's Pond and Rines Forest management plans
 - Plans are complete
 - RRLT provided feedback for the Knight's Pond plan which has been incorporated
- Signage
 - John shared a rough draft of signage explaining invasives in the Town Forest with the subcommittee
 - Sally will share a link for signage used at the Audubon
 - These signs will be placed along the trail, not at the kiosk
- Erosion
 - Gordon will be contacting the town-recommended engineer to schedule a call with Chris B and Paul Larrivee to discuss options for remediation for the area near the end of Greely Road Extension.
- Grassland Management
 - Sally spoke with Maeve at Ag Allies, who recommended against using the North Yarmouth plan as a template, instead suggested starting from scratch.
- **Sustainability Subcommittee (Denny)**
 - No meeting, just engagement with school board.
 - Food Composting Project – Pilot project of food scrap composting has started at the brush dump with Garbage to Gardens. Mix horse manure with the food waste from households. Result in higher quality compost. Compost will be for commercial use. Reduce food waste.
- **Invasive Subcommittee (Mike)**
 - Moss Side Cemetery (Chris) – Concern with overgrowth of invasive plants. Crew will clean out, both pulling and grinding.
 - Need recommendation on what to do with the pulled plants. Currently, all plants are mixed together at the brush dump and are ground and chipped up. Some of the result is sent to be burned for energy and some is available to residents, which ends up spreading the invasive plants.
 - A multi-community crew will meet at PLM 2:00 Saturday 8th to spend a few hours cutting back invasive plants next to the library parking lot. Also tagged two burning bushes and a



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honeysuckle for Public Works to remove since they are invasive. PW will also remove the resultant brush pile.

- Scheduled a one day training for iMapInvasives with the State on May 6, 2023 - an app used to map location of invasive plants.

○ **Farmland assessment (Mike)**

- Back to planning stage – will rely on NRCS soils data map.
- Mike did a soils test by the salt and compost pads for orchard.
- Mike dropped off six hazelnut plants donated by Foreside Garden Club for planting in the orchard.

○ CCLT (Penny) – October 22 celebration event for Longwoods and Reed properties, 10:00.

○ Next meeting November 2nd - 7:00 PM in person or Zoom TBD.