



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: June 12, 2018

(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Bill Shane ++; Tom Gruber +; Peter Bingham +

To: Members:

Janene Gorham (abs)

Ellen Hoffman

\*Mike Schwindt

Sam York

David Young

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

<sup>(F)</sup> Denny Gallaudet

<sup>(F)</sup> Tim Nastro (abs)

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

<sup>(F)</sup> Timothy Schneider (abs)

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

<sup>(F)</sup> Eli Wilson (abs)

<sup>(T)</sup> Rachael Becker McEntee (abs)

<sup>(T)</sup> John Jensenius <sup>vice\*</sup>

<sup>(T)</sup> Shawn McBreairty

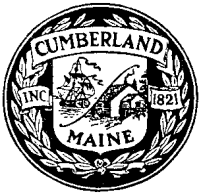
<sup>(T)</sup> Paul Weiss

**Note:** Only members of the Commission and voting members of the subcommittees need attend.

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting June 6th, 2018

- May's minutes were approved as written.
- Susan Nolde resigned.
- Penny Asherman (Land Trusts) attended meeting.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report:
    - Planning Board (June)
      - Recommendation to the Town Council to include conservation subdivision option in Subdivision Ordinance.
      - Preliminary and final major subdivision review of 10 lot residential subdivision off Orchard Rd.
    - Planning Board (July)
      - Phase 1 Oceanview. Waterline has been installed.
      - Commercial lots Rt. 1 Falmouth/Cumberland line.
    - Planning Board (August)
      - Vinings 45 acre tree farm - \$65,000/lot. A lot of interest. 2 acre lots. Stream bisects property.
  - Land Survey – on hold. Poor timing – school budget. Still needs to go through Town Council approval. John J agreed good idea to wait.
  - Brown Tail moth – sprayed up to Middle road. Proposed more spraying next year. Will be a meeting in fall to discuss. Impact bees and pollinators. Effectiveness up in the air. Paul mentioned dangerous to environment and 100s of insects affected by spraying. Mentioned a virus has been known to keep them in check. Tom mentioned he has had many complaints. No easy solution. Sam will organize a discussion/forum in the fall.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- MEACC quarterly meeting (Sam) – Most recent meeting was annual meeting. Roughly 26 commissions in the State; only 6 attended. Working to becoming more of a force on environmental issues and overseeing the legislature. Working on education and becoming more active role.
- Town Forest Trails (Mike and Ellen):
  - Still need directional and distance signs – still a work in progress – Mike/Ellen in discussions with Bill – best approach.
  - Noted that “Town Trail” signs are unidirectional – assume direction of travel. Need to discuss with Laura at Town Hall about getting signs from the other direction displayed.
  - Need red topped stakes put up to mark loop for Rail Trail.
  - Need kiosk at Drowne Rd entrance.
  - Change to Ordinance announced – dogs must be leashed in Town Forest.
  - Culvert along Rail Trail – issue being reviewed.
- Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen)
  - Current plant listing for Nature Trail was passed around. This is not a final list; but metal markers for this list will be ordered (Mike).
  - Trail clean-up around specimens was done.
  - Final specimens have been entered/removed into database; need printout so can decide which of the duplicates to use.
- BFG – weeding by Mike and Ellen ongoing.
- Val Halla (assorted) – Mike and Ellen
  - Seedlings along path bordering the ESA area near Greely Rd are doing well.
  - Planted a nursery of hickory, butternut, buckeye, chestnut and birch seeds near the 10th fairway (old wedding area). Toby built a squirrel proof cage over seeds. Looks like some creature dug underneath cage and stole seeds. May need to replant with seedlings that Mike has started.
  - Operation Pollinator/Monarchs in the Rough – weeded garden by clubhouse (propane tank area). Planted sunflower seeds. Just starting to sprout.
- Invasive species (Sam) – need to come up with scope and objectives and how to convey information to landowners. What to do about buckthorn in Rines Forest. Other volunteers? Mike mentioned don’t need to be part of Commission to be on a subcommittee.
- New business (Mike)
  - Monday (June 4<sup>th</sup>) Town Council meeting – considered accepting a 4-acre gift to Town on Oxford Rd off Windsor Lane to be included as part of the Rines Forest conservation easement. Penny mentioned significant, scenic values in Open Space Plan. Stream empties into Mill Brook. Trail into Rines to waterfall. John motion to recommend accepting gift. Paul seconded motion. All in favor. Mike will draft letter.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Student community service projects (Dave) – Dave had contacted Joanna Foster at the high school. The high school requested a list of project ideas. Some suggestions:
  - Add bat/bird houses and bench to butterfly garden area
  - Help with trail clean-up and trail building
  - Update information at the kiosks at Rines and TF (new kiosks are currently being built).Penny noted that senior projects have mixed success rate – community service club and Eagle Scouts tend to have better success. Need to be very specific in what the project is. Also should interview kids, and commit to time frame.
- Projects for 2018
  - Butterfly garden (BFG) – need bench, and put up bird houses – Backyard Habitat?
  - Operation Pollinator – garden (s) in Val Halla.
  - Nature trail in Town Forest – need distance signs, plant IDs and kiosk.
  - Need to update Maine Trail Finders of improved TF trail.
  - Trail maps on line – time consuming. Where will the information come from? Format?
  - Invasive species presentations/discussions
- Trails Subcommittee (Paul)
  - Displayed Cumberland trail map of progress along the Cross Cumberland Trail.
  - Progress with Gallati property. Paul and Ron Colavolpe marked out the trail from the Falmouth border (Hadlock Trail network) to the “turnoff” near Gallati property. Also worked with David Gallati making the trail to the edge of this land to across Range Road. A split-rail fence demarking property will be installed in the next week or two.
  - Work progressed on the new trail section from NE corner of Rines (Red – snowmobile Trail) through the Godsoe property over to Fred Kinney’s land and to Blanchard Rd. This new section has all been marked. Bridge needs some work and tree across trail. Perimeter trail needs some work. Fred Kinney’s property needs signs indicating it is on private property. Paul mentioned Town should send a thank you letter to Fred.
  - Greely Woods (John), still issue of who owns. Doane and Oceanview needs to be straightened out. Needs to be appraised (July/Aug). Lee Property – issue with dogs.
  - Trail signs have been put up in Greely Woods and Wilderness Trails (Greely Rd side of Twin Brooks).
  - Cut-thru trail from Farwell Ave → Middle School/High School – no update.
  - Trail stewards – overlap with Land Trust – need to work together to get so no duplication of efforts.
  - More trail work planned. Paul will send out an email with info.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Mentioned Conservation Commission/Trails Subcommittee should have a table at next New Residents meeting with trail information.
- Forest Subcommittee (Denny)
  - Rines Forest – was harvested in 2011. Next planned harvest 2020. Need to assess current buckthorn situation. Treatment was part of original plan.
  - Knights Pond – benefits of doing a survey. Need to know what is currently present even though no plans to harvest.
  - Discussed outreach to large private landowners – best practices.
- Next meeting August 1<sup>st</sup> (no meeting July 4<sup>th</sup>) 7:30 pm