



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: August 10, 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

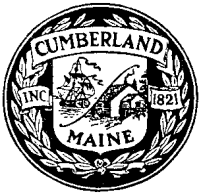
<sup>(T)</sup> Paul Weiss (abs)

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting August 1st, 2018

- June's minutes were approved as written; no meeting in July.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report:
    - Planning Board (August 21st)
      - Final major subdivision review for OceanView at Cumberland. Waiting on DEP permits.
      - Amendment to Village Green Major Subdivision to add four single family lots Amanda's Way.
      - Recommendation to Town Council on amendment to Zoning Ordinance to allow storage units in the VCC zone.
    - Vining's 45 acre tree farm – a lot of interest. Stream bisects property. Hopefully conservation subdivision ordinance will be in place before property goes on market. Question of lot size (for conservation subdivision) – need to protect property.
  - Snowmobile trail OceanView to Val Halla (Shawn). Trail crosses Laurence Allen's property; OK for a trial basis. The Allen's driveway is the access to OceanView. No easement or license, OceanView holds all rights. Planning Board OK with that. Shawn request written info for club. A lot of work still needs to be done. \$10,000 funding by OceanView, Town will permit bridges but Oceanview will build.
  - Town Forest Trails (Mike and Ellen):
    - Still need directional and distance signs – Mike/Ellen in discussions with Bill – idea of repurposing the old number markers which serve no purpose.
    - 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.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Discussed idea of using the old snowmobile trail (at marker 7) as a shortcut to garden. The path would need to be mowed and trees blocking trail cut. Culvert to be installed.
- Discussed with Bill idea of a platform being constructed and placed by vernal pool in field. The vernal pool is on railroad property and is hidden by brush. We will create a sign explain vernal pool (and a sign by the BFG pointing to it).
- Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen)
  - Markers have been ordered, should arrive soon.
- BFG – has been weeded and looks good.
- Val Halla (assorted) – Mike and Ellen
  - Seedlings along path bordering the ESA area near Greely Rd – some are thriving and some look like they didn't make it. Might replace in fall.
  - 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 –garden by clubhouse (propane tank area). Many of the sunflowers are starting to bloom.
- Oxford Rd off of Windsor Lane (Mike) - Town Council meeting – considered accepting a 4-acre gift to Town to be included as part of the Rines Forest conservation easement. At previous meeting, Committee voted to approve recommendation. Subsequently, electronic vote to rescind motion, unanimous, more factors came to light – too much risk involved.
- Rines Forest – electronic vote in June to endorse grant application by Land Trust - approved. Land Trust needs to go before the Town Council for approval.
- Grants – Bill mentioned staff on the lookout for grant notifications – monies to be used throughout the Town. Websites?
- Annual Report – Mike is waiting on feedback from the various committees. Deadline is August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Invasive species (Sam) – Sam, passed around an invasive species program informational sheet, with a mission statement, control methods and other ideas for Invasive Species Sub-committee. Possibly spend \$10,000-\$15,000 a year to control (not eradicate). Idea to survey both public and private lands to get a true scope of the problem. Residents' question what should be done once invasive species are removed (brush dump). Bill mentioned secondary treatment at Broad Cove. Ellen will give Bill a list of three areas with Knotweed that can be used a test of treatment.
- Student community service projects (Dave) – no update
- Land selection (Dave) – no update
- Projects for 2018

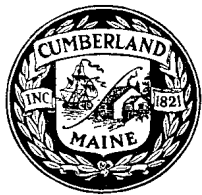


## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- 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 (John and info from Paul's emails)
    - Snippet from Paul's email 6/18/2018:
      - Did some surface weed whacking on the new section of the Cross Cumberland Trail (XCT) through Kinney Gadso section. Mowed both fields.
      - Made an excellent bypass of the Red Trail (Horse destroyed sections) (2)
      - These new bypasses were cut cleaned and marked and are now walkable or rideable. I will have to mark them as "no horses please".
      - Also cleaned up and cleared a new connector on the Rines II section, that is now marked in Green, from the Junction of the white trail all the way to Range Road across the street from the Galati Property.
      - This includes a new trail that never existed and also uses an old tote road. All is marked, swept, cut and cleaned. I walked and rode all these sections. The new section is where I will be working with the town for wood delivery and will be building about 3 sections of bog walks in the swampy section. That will have to be another weekend but should be able to complete that in a weekend.
      - Working with Dave Galati and Maine Line Fence on getting David's Fence in (might be some ledge issues, but I hope minimal).
      - I will also have to build 2 small bridges in the CXT Gadsoe section.
      - So the Cross Cumberland Trail, from Range road to Blanchard is now marked and passable. Still need to work on the Galati side to complete the connection to Falmouth. I will wait until after the fence is in, before starting that. I think that should only take half a day.
      - Will then have to do some last land negotiations with Don Lee Property to open the trail over to Blueberry Hill and North Yarmouth.
    - Great to have some help on Sunday, with Gerry Remsen a new local Mt Biker helped out!
    - Snippet from Paul's email 6/22/2018:

We will be working on 3 bog bridges off Range road. I got brand new lumber delivered from the Town (Cumberland-thank you), and it looks great! We will assemble and cut etc. **I will have all tools we need.** Also still doing some chain saw work on this and if we get done early we might fix some of the older bog bridges down the trail in Rines Forest.
    - Snippet from Paul's email 7/11/2018:

We will be working on new section of the Cross Cumberland Trail from Hadlock Forest in Falmouth to Range Road. This will be the final connection from Falmouth all the way through to Range Road. We will be doing some ramp work (near road), cutting trails, raking, blazing, groundwork and chainsaw work.
    - Transfer of deed for trails at Broad Cove to Land Trust.
    - Fred Kinney's property needs signs indicating trail is on private property. Paul mentioned Town should send a thank you letter to Fred – Town will take care of this.
    - Greely Woods (John), still issue of who owns. Waiting on appraiser – John will walk property soon.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Cut-thru trail from Farwell Ave → Middle School/High School – no update.
- Trail stewards – overlap with Land Trust – no update
- Forest Subcommittee (Peter B)
  - Denny presented part of study from Vermont on carbon sequestration (Vermont's Forest Carbon Initiative) in forestry subcommittee meeting.
  - Planning information presentation sometime in November to large landowners re: forestry practices, forestry, tree growth. Have foresters and tax experts present. Info panel/ discussion with expert.
- Next meeting September 5th 7:30 pm