



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: September 6, 2018

(* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++ = Town Mgr.; ^(T) = trails SC; ^(F) = forest SC)

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

To: Members:

~~Janene Gorham~~

Ellen Hoffman

*Mike Schwindt

Sam York

David Young

^(F) Ted Chadbourne

^(F) Denny Gallaudet

^(F) Tim Nastro (abs)

^(F) Linda Putnam

^(F) Timothy Schneider (abs)

^(F) Sally Stockwell (abs)

^(F) Eli Wilson (abs)

^(T) Rachael Becker McEntee (abs)

^(T) John Jensenius ^{vice*} (abs)

^(T) Shawn McBreaity (abs)

^(T) Paul Weiss

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting September 5th, 2018

- August's minutes were approved. Correction that Denny was not in attendance – Peter B presented Forest Subcommittee info. Denny attended Forest Subcommittee meeting.
- Janene Gorham resigned.
- Commission (Mike)
 - Bill report:
 - Planning Board (September 18th 2018)
 - Public Hearing – site plan review to increase size of parking lot at Prince Memorial Library. No trees will be cut – add 11 parking spaces.
 - Public Hearing – major site plan review for Lot #5 at Cumberland Foreside Village (Rt 1) Belted Cow – Yarmouth company.
 - OceanView at Cumberland and Village Green – approved conditionally. Waiting on DEP approval. OceanView - \$10,000 for trail work – connect trails at OceanView to Crossing Brook. Need to meet with developer to flag area. Bill mentioned environmental permits may need to be adjusted. This will be an off-road trail – seasonal? Area wet. Paul and Shawn will meet with Sevee and Maher Engineers.
 - Vining's 45 acre former tree farm – 18 lot subdivision. Stream bisects property as well as a gully. Conservation subdivision not being applied. Each lot will have water and sewer. Very early stage - concept plan (sketch plan review).
 - Town Forest Trails (Mike and Ellen):
 - Directional and distance signs – Signs are being made. Will be posted on trees at intersections.
 - All old marker posts have been removed.



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- Three additional “Town Trail” signs have been ordered for backside of posts (so sign visible from both directions).
- Need red topped stakes put up to mark loop for Rail Trail.
- A path has been cut from the old snowmobile trail to the BFG. In October, a tree service will cut up the fallen trees blocking path so can cut through the woods by old Marker 7, to the mowed path, to the BFG. When complete, a trail marker to BFG will be installed.
- New platform was installed and scrub cut back on Town’s side of vernal pool. A temporary informational sign will be displayed from platform. Final sign waiting Sally’s approval on verbiage. Still waiting to see if railroad personal will cut back brush on other side of fence.
- Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen)
 - Plant id markers have arrived will be placed in the next week or so. Will need to finalize map of plant locations and trails – working with Bill and Judy.
- BFG – Plants are blooming and butterfly, bees and alas weeds abound. Will put up a directional sign to indicate vernal pool location.
- Val Halla – Mike and Ellen
 - Operation Pollinator/Monarchs in the Rough – garden by clubhouse (propane tank area). Sunflowers of all sizes are in bloom.
- Annual Report – Mike submitted write up.
- Invasive species (Sam)
 - Informational sheet about workshop at the Boothbay Botanical Harbor Gardens Oct 4-5 for anyone interested.
 - September 13 contractor will spray Broad Cove (second year) and possibly by the salt shed for invasive plants.
 - September 14 contractor will spray roadsides and guardrails for invasive species. Sam suggested taking before and after photos as a baseline. Ellen gave Sam and Bill several locations of Japanese Knotweed that should be treated.
- Projects for 2018
 - Butterfly garden (BFG) – need bench, and put up bird houses – Backyard Habitat?
 - Operation Pollinator – garden (s) in Val Halla – plan for next year.
 - Nature trail in Town Forest – need distance signs, plant IDs, Rail Trail red markers 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)
 - Cross Cumberland Trail – complete from Cumberland town line to Blanchard Rd.



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- Still issues with landowner to finish Knights Pond/Blueberry Hill to North Yarmouth - hope at this point to keep trail as is. Perhaps mark around his property?
- Rines Forest – work upcoming – Winter Trail very overgrown – unpassable.
- Work with the Land Trust to create Loop Trail at Broad Cove.
- Greely Woods connection (Bill) – appraisal completed. October, Town will have a gift letter to Doanes – and they will release deed. All easements for Greely Woods will be recorded at some time.
- Bill mentioned he spoke with Karen Gallati and she and her husband were very pleased with the resolution of connection to Rines Forest to Falmouth over their property.
- Town sent a thank you letter to Fred Kinney allowing use of his land (this happened August after our meeting).
- Cut-thru trail from Farwell Ave → Middle School/High School – no update.
- Trail stewards – overlap with Land Trust – no update
- Forest Subcommittee (Denny)
 - Timber inventory at Knights Pond has not occurred. Motion was voted on and approved back in April in the Oversight Committee meeting. Mike will write up recommendation send to Bill so item can get on Town Council agenda. Denny will forward IFM proposal to Ellen who will distribute along with minutes.
 - Discussion of Rines Forest with forester. Original management plan completed. The second harvest has been done. Still issue with buckthorn in cut areas. The treatment was not successful. Want to develop idea on how to best manage. Stimulate competition by native species. Try this approach on experimental areas - see how well that controls spread of invasive plants. No harvesting scheduled through 2021.
 - Planning information presentation sometime in November to large landowners re: best forestry management practices, tree growth, taxation, and invasive species. Have foresters and tax experts present. Info panel/ discussion with expert. Denny needs to work with Bill to nail down a date.
 - Request from a hunter to post a game camera in Rines. Unanimous opinion - should not allow – primarily saw as an invasion of privacy. Should a policy be set on all town properties? Tom will bring motion in council meeting to amend use properties in public places.
- Next meeting October 3rd 7:30 pm