



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: October 6, 2018

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

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

To: Members:

Ellen Hoffman

*Mike Schwindt

Sam York

David Young

^(F) Ted Chadbourne ✓

^(F) Denny Gallaudet ✓

^(F) Tim Nastro

^(F) Linda Putnam ✓

^(F) Timothy Schneider

^(F) Sally Stockwell

^(F) Eli Wilson

^(T) Rachael Becker McEntee

^(T) John Jensenius vice* ✓

^(T) Shawn McBairty

^(T) Paul Weiss ✓

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 3, 2018

- September's minutes were approved.
- Guest John Paynter – discuss land gift.
- Commission (Mike)
 - Bill report:
 - Town Council (September 24th)
 - Presentation from the Town Manager re: relocation of the Public Works garage to the Cumberland County Riding Club site on Skillins Rd. Not popular. Need to look at other sites. No action taken.
 - West Cumberland on aquifer, expensive construction cost – no sewer or water. Containment issue.
 - CTC lot off of Route 1: 7 acres but 5 are wetlands, too costly.
 - Middle Rd – streams and wetlands
 - Talk to Yarmouth and Falmouth about other possibilities.
 - Town Council (October 8th)
 - To authorize the Town Manager to issue a gift letter in exchange of a release deed for property know as Greely Woods.
 - To set a Public Hearing date of October 22nd to consider and act on authorizing IFM to conduct a forest and ground cover inventory of Knight's Pond.
 - Planning Board (October 16th)
 - OceanView at Cumberland – underway.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Godsoe property – 2nd phase, two buyers thought they had a purchase and sale agreement in force. John Wazaleski won. Preserve 2-3 acres farm, stables in perpetuity to wood line. Development will occur in back fields. Permissive easement to trails (including snowmobiles). Phase 1: 58 homes 3-4 years. Phase 2: another 58 homes. DEP mostly done by 2019. Planning board, easement connecting the two phases and golf course. Still need to meet with developer to talk about access points for trails.
- 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 except 8 and 9 have been removed.
 - Three additional “Town Trail” signs have been mounted on backside of posts (so sign visible from both directions).
 - 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 review of the verbiage. Still waiting to see if railroad personnel will cut back brush on vernal pool side of fence.
- Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen)
 - Plant ID markers are starting to be placed along trail. The delivered marker order was incomplete – some missing, some duplicates. Noticed that they are hard to see against the dark background of the plants, so we have been attaching green tape. Some of the specimens are off of the trail, so we will need to put some sort of indicator. We will still need a finalized map. Also need to figure out how to display ID tags along bridge by ball fields.
- BFG – The stakes with red tops have been placed around the field. Will put up a directional sign to indicate vernal pool location. Will put up a small informational placard at vernal pool.
- Val Halla – Mike and Ellen
 - Operation Pollinator/Monarchs in the Rough – garden by clubhouse (propane tank area). Sunflowers have finished blooming – squirrels have taken some of the tops. We will cut back remaining and try to save seeds for next year.
- Ad hoc appointments need not be through the Town Council. Tim Nastro requested appointment to Invasive subcommittee.
- Peter mentioned that there are new Town Council appointments to this committee to start in October.
- Land assessment – Paynter gift offer (John Paynter) Knights Pond area. 1.2 acre parcel, old gravel pit only a few feet deep, gift to town. Needs to go before finance committee. Cost is to reimburse Mr. Paynter for legal and survey fees. Will add \$10,000 to 10 year note when Town bought Knights Pond. Motion to approve acceptance unanimously. Mike will send letter.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Invasive species (Sam)

- Boothbay Botanical Harbor Gardens' class that was held beginning of October, too introductory, so no members attended.
- Spraying for invasive plants took place at Broad Cove, by salt shed and selective sites around town (contractor could not get to all of the proposed sites). Use as a baseline to see how effective spraying is especially against knotweed. Were before and after pictures taken?
- Mentioned that another meeting with Yarmouth and Falmouth and other communities should be held, similar to format of last year. Some communities (such as Harpswell and Topsham) are not spraying but doing physical removal.
- Dr. Groden (UMaine Orno) – brown tail moth research – looking for more effective methods to control moths instead of spraying.
- Emma Fitzpatrick – is looking at invasive species (Knotweed and how to kill it) in town for a senior project. Had meeting earlier with Tom, Peter and Sam.
- Paul – very against spraying to control invasive species – said does not make sense scientifically.

- Trails Subcommittee (John)

- OceanView – trail has been marked, culvert placement completed. Need signage saying use 7am-7pm. Issue of trail grooming usually done after dark. Site walk-John, Shawn, and developer, to be scheduled.
- Greely Woods – still ownership question – close to being resolved. John contacted property owners regarding easements; still waiting for feedback. John mentioned that the parking area on the side of the road should be plowed.
- Rines Forest – Winter Trail very overgrown – unpassable – no update
- Work with the Land Trust to create Loop Trail at Broad Cove – no update.
- Cut-thru trail from Farwell Ave → Middle School/High School – no update.
- Trail stewards – overlap with Land Trust – no update

- Forest Subcommittee (Denny)

- Buckthorn control in Rines, try pilot approaches with four test methods:
 - Grind flat, wipes out everything
 - Cut down to 4" stems treat with cyclocate by manually painting onto cambium layer.
 - Cut to stumps, spray with herbicide.
 - Buckthorn baggy – put over stump to eliminate growth – prevents re-sprout – no chemicals.

Try to suppress since can't eliminate. Fall best time to apply – plants will take chemicals down into roots. Uprooting – disturbs soil, seeds will sprout.



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- Timber inventory at Knights Pond on track to move forward with survey.
- Denny went to “Forestry as if the climate mattered” presentation at Common Ground Fair. Mentioned organizations addressing carbon sequestration issue – NOFGA and Nature Conservancy.
- Date for informational presentation November 14th – 6:00pm. Info panel/ discussion with experts.
- New Business
 - Building permits (Dave)
 - Dave thought that there should be a lower than current limit on number of building permits – too many kids and now need portables in classrooms. Currently 85 new houses (plus some Habitat for Humanity and 55+ housing).
 - Growth ordinance – no upper limit on building permits. Number resets every three years. Mentioned only 25% of the household have kids in the school system.
 - Denny - Need a balance in community between young and old. Cumberland is the oldest community in Cumberland County.
 - Paul mentioned need to decide which properties this committee thinks there should have easements on.
 - Conservation subdivision – how does this fit in?
 - Mike will send around an email to get opinion if this issue should be an agenda item, and scope of discussion.
- Next meeting November 7th 7:30 pm