



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: October 3, 2019

(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Code enforcement officer; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Bill Longley ++; Tom Gruber +; George Turner + (abs)

To: Members:

Jenn Grasso

Ellen Hoffman

John Jensenius vice\*

Steven Knowles (abs)

\*Mike Schwindt

Jennifer Taylor (abs)

David Young

Sam York

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

<sup>(F)</sup> Melissa Cott

<sup>(F)</sup> Denny Gallaudet ✓

<sup>(F)</sup> Rhonda Grigg

<sup>(F)</sup> Gordon Lichter

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

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

<sup>(F)</sup> \*Sally Stockwell

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

<sup>(T)</sup> Stephen Fitzgerald ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> Peter Garsoe ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> \*John Jensenius ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> Matthew Leclair

<sup>(T)</sup> Shawn McBreaity ✓

<sup>(T)</sup> Don Stowell

**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 2, 2019

- September minutes were approved as written.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report (Bill L):
    - September 17<sup>th</sup> planning board meeting
      - Christmas Creek Subdivision: Final review, 20-lot major subdivision; approved with conditions.
      - Orchard Rd subdivision: Approved - new owners.
      - Cumberland Foreside Condominiums: Review 4 lot Minor Subdivision located on Kings Highway. Tabled, does not meet acreage requirement.
      - Town of Cumberland compost pad, sand/salt shed relocation - relocation to parcel off of Tuttle Rd adjacent to Town Forest: Approved
      - Solar Project at old landfill: Complete. Will go online in December or January based on recent law changes.
    - November/December planning board meeting
      - OceanView Phase 2 – still working through process. Road in Phase 1 finished, building in progress.
    - Survey of Greely Woods has been completed and easement can be signed with CCLT as per Bill Shane’s email 9-16-19. Pins will be put in for corners. Need to get GPS coordinates for trails to put on survey.
    - Mentioned that there could be a new member to this committee next month.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Town Forest/Nature Trail/BFG (Ellen):
  - Requested three dozen red topped garden stakes to be used this winter to indicate plant markers along the nature trail. A dozen or so of these will be used at the BFG.
  - Mentioned the need for the snow fence around the BFG (demarcates so snowmobilers will know garden and tree locations).
  - Noted that there was still no map in the new kiosk. Ellen stressed that the map should be the updated one (slightly different from the one at the Town Hall entrance).
- MACC (Maine Associations of Conservation Commissions), (Sam) – Sam did not attend July meeting. There will be another meeting next month. Consists of conservation commissions sharing ideas, plans and results. Opportunity to communicate best approaches to common issues. Sam will check if dues have been paid.
- Workshop for municipal officials – at Gilsland Farm. Casco Bay Coastal Academy Series: Conservation Commissions and Plan Review. Tuesday October 29, 5:30 -8.
- Trails Subcommittee (John):
  - Greely Woods – easement is about read to be signed.
  - Cross Cumberland Trail – John spoke with Don Lee about Don's concerns with using the trail over his property. Don wanted to keep his area "secluded". Does not want trail publicized. If the trail is rerouted off his property, it would involve four landowners. John looking into other possibilities. Work in progress.
  - Trail Signage: This needs to be addressed. Some areas there are way too many signs. John has several signs from the state that can be used when deemed necessary to let people that they are on private property.
  - OceanView (Shawn): Trail runs from Tuttle Rd through Val Halla. Homeowner at OceanView where trail crosses had agreed to allow use but has put on a time restriction of 7am-7pm. This is the only trail Shawn is aware of where there is a time restriction. How to enforce? Town has built three bridges to cross streams but more work needs to be done – safety concern. Issue of one of the bridges is not centered on the trail which could make grooming difficult. Also need posts at ends to mark bridge edges. Other improvements of the trail (embankments and shaving down stumps) needed. Some trails need to be widened and trees cut. One trail has wood planks that need to be removed. Tom G suggested that Shawn put together a bullet list for Town and OceanView developers of remaining issues/concerns.
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Denny)
  - There was no meeting held in October (two held in September).
  - Rines Forest: Buckthorn Pull – lightly attended (bad timing). Some progress made.
  - Open position for a new Town Forester: Received four highly qualified applicants, interviewed two. Selected Paul Larrivee Jr (unanimous). He has quite a bit of public relations experience which could come in handy. He offered to help layout trails if need be. Will be a one year



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

contract at standard rate (\$85/hr.). John made motion to accept; Sam seconded; all in favor. Mike will send a note to let Town Council chair (Shirley) know of our recommendation.

- Invasive species (Sam) – Mentioned that spraying has occurred along roadsides for invasive plants alternating years for the past five years. Surveying the areas sprayed shows that spraying is effective in killing the plants up to about 20 feet back from edge of road. Sam remarked that spraying is cosmetic; does not seem to help with controlling spreading. Town needs to decide if this is the right approach. There was no spraying this year, will see result next spring. Where sprayed, if plants left, area unsightly. Mow down? Sam mentioned lots of vines along Route 1 – need to develop a strategy.
  - Denny commented that spraying does not make sense – does not really accomplish anything. Other towns are removing root structures. Maybe we should rethink spraying.
  - Mike suggested using sprayed areas as test plots to see if spraying works – get the positive and negative effects of spraying. Need to monitor effects.
- New Business
  - Committees need to decide on projects for next year – discuss next meeting.
    - Climate Action Plan (Denny): how do we reduce emissions - deferred to next meeting.
- Land ID (Dave) – no update
- Land Use Survey (Dave) – no update
- Next meeting November 6, 7:30.