

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: November 7, 2015 (* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++

To: CTL&CC members: Tom Gruber + (abs) Susan Nolde
Peter Bingham+ (abs) Brad Hilton *Sam York
Ted Chadbourne (abs) Ellen Hoffman David Young

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting November 4th, 2015

- Minutes from October meeting were approved as written.
- Town Forest:
 - Town-wide unveiling took place Oct 24th. Only moderately attended. Competition with the Knights Pond ribbon cutting ceremony. Also we could have done a better job of advertising. Talk about another walk in spring before the bugs return.
 - Joe Anderson was unable to find anyone available to spray buckthorn this fall. We need to be more on top of it for next year – get in line early. Also need to know the cost.
 - Brad will write up a game plan as far as a schedule for cutting/spraying going forward. Sue mentioned that there could be a problem with using Roundup and honeybees. Others didn't see this as an issue since Roundup has a short ½ life and there are no honeybees around late in the fall. Need to cut in the spring and spray in the fall.
 - The new signs for directing walkers back to the trail and to the town hall when exiting on the road from the original loop are in place and well placed.
 - Need to discuss what to do with the newly acquired slice of land by the RR tracks that abuts the town forest. Idea of making it into a dog park. Possible project to look into for next year.
 - Leave snowmobile trail that runs through forest as is.
 - Remaining issues:
 - Talked about naming/marketing the trails by color. Sam mentioned that the state of Vermont uses some sort of colored plastic markers to mark their trails. The map at the kiosk will need to be update with new trail names.
 - Two large info signs – need to decide if we are keeping or going to change the wording on them. Ellen will look at the signs and come up with new wording if needed.
 - Tree info signs. Need to identify which trees/plants we want to mark for identification. Will need to figure out format. Project for next year. Sue suggested she might be interested in fund raising for project. Will the

location of the info signs be indicated on the kiosk map? Public works may also help with signs.

- Brad mentioned that the map at the kiosk(s) should be orientated as heading up instead of north up. Bill said that is doable. Was this for both kiosks or just the newer one by the Village? Ellen mentioned that it would be nice if the map didn't show the landfill as brown since it now has grass. Do we have better data we could use?
- Brad identified quite a few shag bark hickory trees and a few apple trees and marked general location on a map (gave to Sam for safe keeping) as well as marked trees with white surveyor's tape. We need to clean around these trees (Dave and Sam). Possibly GPS their location to have a better idea where they are.
- There are four benches being made by the Yarmouth Rotary Club. Not sure yet if there will be any cost to the town. The benches will have a back and possibly have the rotary insignia branded onto the back of the bench. The kiosk will also have a note about the benches being donated by the Yarmouth Rotary Club. When they are ready to be installed, need to coordinate with Bill and Cumberland public works – to help transport and provide any needed fill. After benches are in place, Town Council will do some sort of recognition to the Yarmouth Rotary Club.
- Sam questioned if we need more than the four benches. Will revisit later.
- Need to update Maine Trail Finders and other online sites once new trails are named and marked. Also need to update verbiage (EH).
- Bill had our webmaster update the website so the Town Forest trail and other town trails are easier to find.
- Town to do:
 - Rip-rap needs to be put around culverts
 - Mulch needed on sides of trail
 - Canal needs to be dredged
 - Still some clean-up work needs to be done in cut areas
 - Update map at kiosk
 - Maybe see if Alpha 1 is interested in giving us feedback for wheelchair or access to limited mobility individuals.
- Grant for invasive plant education, control and eradication. Sue – no update
- Greely Woods – John and Bill walked and GPS trails for accuracy. Still working with neighbors for easement and to gauge interest.
- Town owned properties on Range Way – link to Rock Ridge. Updated cover letter and survey were approved by committee members. Bill will make minor changes (add name of Rock Ridge when mention CCLT open space and update map). Letter and survey to be sent to neighbors next week (11/8). Town waiting to hear from Buzz Lamb's attorney.

- Knights Pond ribbon cutting took place Saturday Oct 24th.
- Rines Forest – no update
- Vernal pools – no update
- Ideas/ Project 2016 – need to discuss ideas next meeting. Need a clear plan for new members.
 - Town Forest – see above
 - Arbor Day and tree giveaway – (Sue and Ellen) next year
 - Cumberland Circle trail - Need to map with town's GPS
 - *Update the trail guide – online and hard copy.
 - Need to make sure submit write-up for annual report to get more exposure. (Sam)
- **Next meeting December 2nd 7pm**