

**Ocean Access Committee
Meeting Minutes—January 13, 2016, 6:00p.m.**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Charles Adams, C. Ingrid Parkin, Penny Asherman, Joshua Ottow, Stephen Thomas, Maureen Ann Connolly, Brent Sullivan, Lew Incze, Tom Gruber—Council Liaison,

Absent: Jessica Joyce, George Turner—Council Liaison

Staff: Bill Shane—Town Manager, Eliza Porter—Special Projects Coordinator

I. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The committee tabled the election of the Chair and Vice Chair to the next meeting.

II. Approval of the December 9, 2015 Minutes

The committee tabled the approval of minutes until the next meeting due to the majority of the committee not receiving the minutes because of technical difficulties.

III. Forest Bell Presentation

Kevin Ryan from FB Environmental made the following presentation:



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Methods/Results at a Glance
- Invasives Map
- Threats
- Natural History/ID Features
- Management Techniques
- Next steps
- Permitting

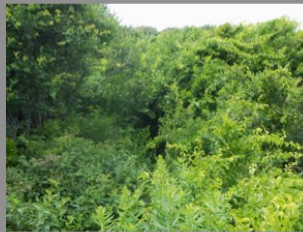
METHODS/RESULTS

- Invasives mapped on October 13, 2015
- Cover types = Hardwood forest, forest edge, meadow, and shoreline
- Invasives found in all cover types
- 10 species total



THREATS

- Outcompete native species
- Alter physical structure
- “Fast food”
- Impassible foot paths
- Unsightly



ORIENTAL BITTERSWEET

(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

- Woody vine up to 60'
 - American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*)
- Vigorous, strangles trees, forms monocultures
- Full sun to part shade
- Spread by birds



MULTIFLORA ROSE

(*Rosa multiflora*)

- Shrub with white flowers
 - Fringed petiole where leaf meets stem
- Spread by birds
- Sprouts in nearly all soil conditions



JAPANESE BARBERRY

(*Berberis thunbergii*)

- Woody shrub up to 6'
 - Red berries, leafs-out early
- Can form monocultures
- Deer ticks

Minn Dept of Ag

JAPANESE KNOTWEED

(*Fallopia japonica*)

- Large herbaceous perennial up to 10'
 - Heart-shaped leaves & white flowers
- Spreads by rhizomes or fragmentation
- Forms dense monocultures



SHRUB HONEYSUCKLE

(*Lonicera* spp.)

- Morrow and Tatarian (*L. morrowii* and *L. tatarica*)
- Shrubs up to 8'
 - Leaves, flowers, berries in pairs
- Can form dense thickets that shade out native species



GLOSSY BUCKTHORN

(*Fallopia japonica*)

- Shrub or small tree up to 20'
 - Smooth edges and parallel venation
- Fruits can be problematic to wildlife
- Forms dense monocultures



BURNING BUSH

(*Euonymus alatus*)

- Shrub or small tree up to 10'
 - Corky “wings”, red foliage in fall
- Escapes from horticultural plantings
- Shade-tolerant but likes sun too



GARLIC MUSTARD

(*Alliaria petiolata*)

- Biennial herb
 - White flowers
 - Edible
- Can grow in dense colonies
- Pulling parties

BLACK LOCUST

(*Robinia pseudoacacia*)

- Tree reaching 80'
 - Compound leaves, fragrant flowers, “ropey” bark
- Native to northeast but not this far north
- Considered invasive in portions of its range

BEACH ROSE

(*Rosa rugosa*)

- Common shrub of the coast
 - Thick, leathery leaves
- Can inhibit growth of native plants
- “Naturalized vs. Invasive”
- Popular among coastal residents

METHODS OF INVASIVES MANAGEMENT

- Carbohydrate starvation
 - Just keep cutting!
 - Not useful for annuals and biennials
- Physical removal
 - Pull/dig out entire plant
 - Root fragments, soil disturbance
- Foliar flaming
 - Fun



METHODS OF INVASIVES MANAGEMENT

- Herbicide
 - Glyphosate & Triclopyr
 - Low toxicity and degrade rapidly
 - Cut stump
 - Foliar application



NEXT STEPS

- Plan of attack
 - Repeated treatments
 - 5 Year plan
 - Continuous monitoring
- Town/Land Trust?
 - Town employee must be licensed
 - Land Trust must use “general use” herbicide
 - Close off area for seven days
- Vegetation Control Services

PERMITTING

- Maine Natural Resources Protection Act
 - Chapter 305 – Permit by Rule
 - Sections 2 and 12
 - Streamlined process
- Maine Board of Pesticides Control
 - Variance from 25-foot setback
- Town Shoreland Zoning

QUESTIONS?



Comments/Questions:

Mr. Shane expressed his concern with dealing with the invasive species due to the shoreline agreement.

Mr. Ryan stated that he had not dealt with a situation like that before. He explained that the invasive species were not assisting with holding together the embankment and could present future issues with the healthy trees that are protecting the shoreline.

Ms. Connolly asked how the 5 year plan should work.

Mr. Ryan suggested that you could do all of the invasive species each year because the property is small enough. He further explained that there is a 7 day quarantine when volunteers apply it, but there is no quarantine if it is professionally applied.

Mr. Shane asked about the impact of brown tail moth infestation.

Mr. Ryan said he would have to ask someone with more expertise in that area.

Mr. Shane expressed his interest in the 5 year plan. He asked about a monetary estimate for hiring a professional to handle the invasive species.

Mr. Ryan said that he didn't have that information, but could look into it. Mr. Incze asked about the prioritization of what species to deal with first.

Mr. Ryan stated that it was best to start handling the bittersweet first. He explained though, that the most cost effective way of handling the invasive species on the property is taking care of them all at once.

Ms. Connolly asked Ms. Asherman what the role of the CCLT would be in it.

Ms. Asherman said that a proposal should be made and can be reviewed by the CCLT.

Ms. Connolly explained Wildwood's experience with handling Bittersweet and Japanese Knotweed. She explained that it has been a volunteer based removal process. No herbicides have been used.

Mr. Shane asked Mr. Ryan what the best disposal process would be.

Mr. Ryan recommended that burning would be the most efficient way to dispose of the invasives.

Mr. Sullivan noted that replanting native species can be beneficial to protecting the shoreline.

Mr. Shane suggested that Ms. Connolly speak to the Wildwood association about the

removal in surrounding areas. He also noted that the DEP wanted the invasive species “clipped and dripped” instead of pulling out species.

Mr. Ryan explained that pulling out the plants can cause soil disruption and root fragmentation.

The committee thanked Mr. Ryan for his report and presentation.

IV. Signage Workshop and Implementation Plan

Ms. Asherman explained that there are three land grants through the Ed Meadows Conservation Grant. The grants will be awarded for signage. She explained that as a committee it would be beneficial to apply for the grant to cover the costs of adding signage to the reserve. She said it would be a joint project between the CCLT, OAC, and CWC. She explained that the CCLT voted in their meeting last night to put up \$1,000 toward the project and the Cumberland Historical Society will be considering to donate money for the project at their meeting on Sunday. She asked if the committee would be willing to put forth money to support the sign. The grant would be \$3,000-\$5,000.

The first suggestion for a sign would be a historical one about the old town farm.

The second suggestion would be an interpretive sign by the boathouse about the marine, grasses, and bird ecology.

Mr. Incze expressed interest in the application for the grants. He explained that it might be smart to adopt uniform hardware for the signs so that other signs in town can look similarly so citizens can identify it as a community project.

Ms. Parkin explained that they have been working with a sign company out of New York.

The committee discussed different types of signs.

Ms. Asherman inquired about graphic designers who would be able to design it.

Ms. Connolly suggested it would be beneficial to the application to have the Ocean Access Committee and the Coastal Waters Commission write a letter in support of the project.

Mr. Adams asked what the primary purpose of the signs would be.

Ms. Asherman explained that it would be for educational purposes.

Mr. Shane suggested maximizing the grant to make as many signs as possible for the site. He also suggested numbering the signs and including them on maps so residents can identify where on the property they are.

The committee discussed the possible usage of a phone application to connect with the signs.

The Ocean Access Committee expressed their support for the application for the grants.

V. Other Business—Next Meeting Date

Mr. Incze stated that the recommendations that the Coastal Waters Commission made to the Town Council. He reported on the status of the survey and that there was a pattern between respondents answers.

The committee endorsed to keep the gate closed at Broad Cove Reserve during the winter months.

Ms. Connolly asked about having only Cumberland residents parking at the site.

Mr. Shane suggested that it should be discussed at the next meeting. He discussed the status of the proposed parking lot and indicated that it may not be constructed until early to late fall.

The committee agreed to put the parking discussion on the next agenda.

Ms. Connolly agreed to write a letter of the support on behalf of the OAC.

Mr. Incze agreed to write a letter of support on behalf of the CWC.

Mr. Shane explained that the committee could come up with the remaining funds to match the grant. He also proposed that the town could write a letter of support in addition to the two committees.

The committee agreed to have the next meeting on March 9, 2016.

VI. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza Porter
Special Projects Coordinator