

## Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: July 10, 2016 (\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++ (abs)

To: CTL&CC members: Ellen Hoffman (late) \*Sam York  
Peter Bingham+ Shawn McBrearity David Young  
Ted Chadbourne (abs) Susan Nolde (abs) Paul Weiss  
Tom Gruber + (abs) Mike Schwindt

From: Shawn McBrearity (first hour)/Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting July 6th, 2016

- Minutes from June were approved.
- Circle Trail: Connecting trails into and out of Cumberland. (Paul-lead/Shawn). Changed name to Cumberland Trail Network. Paul gave presentation of his mapped trails overlaid on Town map. Still needs to clean up map – designate usage and possible conditions (needs work, gravel ect). Below are Shawn's minutes:

Cumberland Circle trail – Use Cumberland Trail Network instead of “circle” trail. 2016 project sizing? (Paul W.) – Paul brought his map up on the screen, color codes are not necessarily properly coded, some of the trails are on roads, so ignore both counts. Shawn and Paul met at 6pm to talk over the trails, look at priorities and potential. Goal would be to color code the trails, dual purpose, winter only (snowmobile), biking, horseback, walking, condition of trail, etc. and provide multiple “overlays” for mapping purposes. Also need to look at what is on Town property, what has an easement, what the status (open, easement, CMP, farmland, Range Ways, etc.) of the trails are now. An example discussed is the CMP powerline/pipe line that goes from Route 100 (J Bros.), across Blanchard Road near the Fairgrounds, over to North Yarmouth. Priority could be trails that are open to provide a map to the Town citizens.

Three potential priorities for the Planning Board and/or Town Council presentation in the future and what the “check list” process is when something new is occurring in these areas (maintaining easements, reroutes, etc. so that access to trails is continued). Nothing currently in the Site Plan ordinance to consider existing trails. Has been a given, but not currently in the formal process. How does this Committee take part in that process and partake in the collective knowledge? It could be a recommendation vs. an ordinance? How does it not fall through the cracks? Comprehensive Plan to connect the town trails? Falmouth recognition for their efforts, Active Land Trust with Penny, etc. who we should setup a meeting together, work in conjunction with their efforts, etc. Window of opportunity may be closing.

1) Hadlock Forest trail, over to Rines Forest, over to Blanchard behind the golf range (Fred Kenny (spelling?) – easement for biking or hiking potential with Bill talking with him?), over to Bruce/Blueberry Hill Cumberland Land Trust and the Knights Pond area. There is also Town owned section off Bruce Hill Road that used to be a snowmobile trail. (Farwell Forest clearing that would place the trail on the side of the forest?) This is a “cross section” trail of the powerlines which “rectangle” around the Town. It would also connect Falmouth to North Yarmouth. It may open up the Greely Woods area, or a way to get from the Greely Woods, across Greely Road Ext. to the North Yarmouth powerline.

2) Bill's “tunnel” across the rail road tracks, on the powerline that is on the north side of Cumberland. This trail runs from Knights Pond over to Hillside and over to Raven Farm

substation, over to Yarmouth and extends to the Cousin's Island trail network. Could run a trail down from the powerline to the official crossing on Greely road, but running back to the powerline.

3) The powerline trail crossing Tuttle Road, heading across Harris Road and the trail to Longwoods Road, which is a Falmouth trail network with a new public land purchase, that ends up in Woods Road. Lamb's (spelling?) property? Lead Line/Powerline that headed back toward heading toward Route 1? Bob Shafto? Possible potential to extend the old/closed snowmobile trail (Valacci Field) with the Range Way trail through, possibly hooking up with the official rail road crossing. Falmouth to Cumberland to Yarmouth trails.

- Town Forest remaining issues:
  - Need new snowmobile signs.
  - This list is a consolidation of an email that was sent to Bill earlier as well as some modifications and additions.
    - Sign at kiosk out of date. Waiting for final committee approval of verbiage for new kiosk sign.
    - Remove all signs (old kiosk, managed, unmanaged and buckthorn pull).
    - Update map at kiosk, rotate to heading up, add a compass rose, new trail names, and show connectors. Remove sign indicators (blue rectangles). Add railroad trail and its entrance on Tuttle road. Remove black trail around land fill/Phragmites, and all temporary trail indicators (Sam and Ellen will finalize).
    - Once map is finalized, need to print and use these – not the current “unofficial” ones.
    - Add CT logo – both entrances. Do we want to update the Town Forest sign by the road with CT logo instead of putting on kiosk?
    - What to do if anything about markers? Put distance on them?
    - Some of the blue trail marker signs need to be reoriented or removed – they were correct before the trail was “paved”, especially around M10, M14 and M15.
    - Should we remove the bridge at M3 that accesses railroad trail? There are multiple crosses to railroad trail.
    - Can we remove the blue and pink tape?
    - Mark field property (boundary); mow field boundary (and across); add bench by field.
    - Improve the cross trail (Canal Trail) at M4 – marked in yellow on map.
    - What should we do about old snowmobile trail? Add corduroy bridge so can walk? Or do we remove from map? Improve Bateman trail?
    - Need a marker at triangle (senior housing/back to town hall).
    - Question of position of bench on the hill. Benches have been placed and facing away from better view.
    - There is an old iron fence by M4 (near the railroad trail) – remove?
    - Noticed some Japanese knotweed along trail edges. Need to keep an eye on this so doesn't spread.
  - Tree info signs. Mike and Ellen walked trails multiple times selecting possible trees/plants/interesting items to label. Came up with 70 (ish) items; and marked with metal tags. Bill printed in large format overlaid on an old Town Forest Map. Now need to decide which ones to keep (there are

duplicates), and spread evenly along both trail loops. Most items need to be officially identified. Once selected, need to walk with Paul and if need be John Leavitt to help with tree ID. Mike already walked with Carol, of the garden club, to help ID some flowers/plants. Next steps - need to decide on info format/ what the signs will look like, how to protect (polyurethane?) and how to install in forest. Will there be a map of sign locations (paper map – not on kiosk map)? Future – bar code phone to website idea? (Mike-lead/Ellen).

- New benches – In!! Presentation by Town Council to Yarmouth Rotary - when?
- Need to update Maine Trail Finders and other online sites once new trails are named and marked. Also need to update verbiage and update the trail for them (send them a GPX file). (Ellen).
- Plan another walk in fall – late September. Lead?
- Treat invasive species after Labor Day (contractor). Five year plan.
- Logo to use on our trails. Paul presented draft. Comments to use “official” name and to make the hills a little flatter. Paul will resend around new draft for approval.
- Greely Woods – no update ( Dave Young lead).
- Trail Guide – on hold pending trail information
- Rines Forest – Paul mentioned trail work ongoing. Land Trust involved.
- Vernal pools – no update
- Education – bats, brown tail moth – no update. Other ideas?
- **Next meeting August 3<sup>rd</sup> OR September 7th 7pm**