



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: September 2, 2021

(** = town manager; * = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++ = Code enforcement officer; ^(T) = trails SC; ^(F) = forest SC)

Bill Shane** (abs); Bill Longley ++; Tom Gruber +; Mark Segrist +; Allison Foster+

To: Members:

Jennifer Bell (abs)

Sam York

^(F) Ted Chadbourne

^(T) Shaun Breton

Jenn Grasso (abs)

David Young

^(F) Melissa Cott

^(T) Stephen Fitzgerald

Matt Grondin (abs)

^(F) *Denny Gallaudet ✓

^(T) *John Jensenius ✓

Ellen Hoffman

^(F) John Leavitt

^(T) Matthew Leclair

John Jensenius vice*

^(F) Gordon Lichter

^(T) Brian Stearns

Riva Krut

^(F) Linda Putnam

^(T) John Stewart

*Mike Schwindt (abs)

^(F) Sally Stockwell

^(T) Don Stowell

Climate Action Subcommittee:

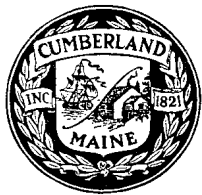
Sukie Curtis, Jennifer Grasso, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Ivy Frignoca, Mark Segrist

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 September 1, 2021

- August minutes were approved as written. This meeting was held virtually.
- Town Council (Allison)
 - Working on goal setting priorities – indication of how the Council is thinking, long term planning. Make sure Council is committed to the actions in the Climate Action Plan. The Council has had a workshop with the Planning Board. Wants to schedule similar meeting with the LCC. Not on calendar yet.
 - Mike has submitted names of two LCC members to work with the Planning Board on language changes to the Conservation Subdivision ordinance. No meeting scheduled yet.
 - Rails to Trails (Mark) – Dick Woodbury has been advocating for trails in the abandoned rail corridors. Link up with the Eastern Green Trail. On Council's September 13th agenda; public hearing looking for feedback. Need to submit a letter to DOT requesting they form an advisory council to (only) look at the issue. Yarmouth and Falmouth are both in favor of such a committee. Need more information. Not clear if the rails are still there and if so, will they remain or be removed.
- Commission (John)
 - Bill report (Bill L and summarized from Bill L's notes):
 - During the month of August 2021, 35 building permits were issued for a variety of structures such as: pools, sheds, decks, renovations, additions, and solar installations.



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- OceanView Phase I (Tuttle Rd) under construction; 29 permits have been issued.
- Christmas Creek – under construction; 18 building permits issued. Issue with road – not sure if Town will accept road – not up to standards. If road accepted, then Town granted access to trail. Trail is currently chipped (heavily).
- Orchard Rd - Cortland Court – six building permits issued.
- Blanchard Oaks – Off Blanchard Road Ext. has begun tree clearing and road construction.
- Broad Cove Ridge – Finalizing Planning Board conditions awaiting Pre-Con Mtg. – Approved.
- Planning Board meeting scheduled for September 21st 2021:
 - Preliminary Plan for the three lots off Blanchard Road Ext. (Ross Estates)
 - Rines Forest parking lot
 - Staff approval of a single-wide trailer to be relocated from Public Works to the middle school for use as classrooms
- Items to be addressed in future Planning Board meeting:
 - New school building for MSAD 51
 - Mr. Banfield zone change request off Old Gray Road at Gray Road. Possible combination of residential and commercial in the Blackstrap pit controlled by David Chase. Addition of one more residential lot change from VOC to VMDR.
 - Cutting issue in the “no disturb buffer” at Blanchard Oaks near lots 7&8 alongside of Orchard Road subdivision Cortland Ct. Violation. Developer will work with Paul L to reforest trees in buffer. Denny mentioned that conservation easement is to be deeded to the Town and LCC should review. LCC has not yet seen the written easement. Bill L mentioned that it has not been finalized and he will discuss with Bill S.
- Rines (John) - Recommendation from LCC improvement of Perimeter Trail (NW side) of Rines. Very wet and dangerous. Need hardening which will require heavy equipment. Also remove a side trail. Denny and Forest Subcommittee were concerned that the trail will become wide and constructed similar to the Town Forest trail. John assured the Forest Subcommittee that that was not the case. Forest Subcommittee OK with recommendation going forward. John made motion to make recommendation for Bill to make a plan to fix Perimeter Trail in Rines. Denny seconded. Vote unanimous.
- Knight's Pond Trail (John) – Proposal to Joint Standing Committee to move the White Trail further away from the edge of the pond. Denny pointed out that there is a 100 foot no cut buffer around the pond to minimize erosion and the Forest Subcommittee discussed whether the trail



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should be moved outside the buffer. Paul L says best to keep trail under coniferous trees. Sam mentioned that if the trail is moved, that will invite impromptu trails back to the pond. John said that some access points will be made to the pond. John said they are not sure how to “close” the closed trails. John made motion LCC to recommend that the Trail and Forest subcommittees work with CCLT on field locate White Trail on NW side of pond where it makes the most sense, rather than requiring it to be outside the buffer. Denny seconded. Vote unanimous.

- Eagle Scout project to build kiosks – no update.
- Question if the LED project has been completed.
- Recreational Trails Subcommittee - (John)
 - Farwell Ave – John thanked all for helping spread gravel behind the retaining pond on school property. Riva mentioned that it was a pleasure to participate and that the trail and the volunteers were such a gift to the children and the Town.
 - Christmas Creek – wood chips have been (heavily) spread along the trail. Trail hooks up with the Wilderness Trail in Twin Brook – Greely Rd. As mentioned above, still not sure status of trail for the Town.
 - Spears Hill Trail - CCLT has Maine Conservation Corps working on laying out trail. Has not been GPS'd. John said Trails Subcommittee will work with the Town to make connection across Broad Cove property.
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Denny)
 - John attended the Forestry Subcommittee meeting.
 - The subcommittee is not happy with the Forest Management Plan for Twin Brook. Current operator is Jeff Story. Recommend to halt harvesting for two years.
 - Recommend that the boundary of Twin Brooks be blazed.
 - Planning a low impact harvest for Knights Pond in winter. Should have no impact with snowmobile trail. Demonstrates forest products of local economy.
 - Bill L will check with Bill S about permission for milling work on downed trees in Town Forest.
 - Need to blaze north corner of Rines and south corner Godsoe properties, property lines unclear.
- Climate Action Subcommittee (Riva/Denny)
 - Riva spoke about food waste and composting.
 - Food waste is believed to be one of the largest drivers of greenhouse gas emissions world-wide due to unnecessary cultivation of agricultural lands and overuse of landfills.
 - MSAD 51 has adopted a single source recycle system including food waste.
 - 17% of households in Cumberland subscribe to a curbside pickup service.



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- Both the MSAD 51 and curbside pickup service are provided by Garbage to Garden.
 - Riva and Bill S have proposed adding food waste to the Town's current composting of brush and yard waste and working with Garbage to Garden and other vendors to increase the usage of curbside pickup.
 - It was noted that all options have boundaries – need to know what is acceptable to compost.
 - Thought that there will be no charge to residents – it will benefit the Town by generating less waste.
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- Land under conservation (Denny) – Current rate of conserved land in town is 22% or 3100 acres. Emerging national goal is 30% land under conservation by 2030. Getting to this goal would mean adding 1000 more acres in the next 10 years. This goal is obtainable given the momentum of the new Conservation Subdivision Ordinance with requirement of 50% open space, efforts by CCLT and others. This goal fits in with the vision of a sustainable Cumberland. Are trails counted as a form of conservation land?
 - Denny noted that the CAP subcommittee ends in March of 2022.
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- Invasive plants (Sam)
 - Sam commented that it looks like the invasive plants are winning the battle. Spraying does not seem to be the best approach. Need other ideas to hold steady.
 - Ellen noted that Phragmites is really spreading throughout the Town Forest.
 - John mentioned that in the back of Moss Side Cemetery in a little park section off of Crestwood Drive is very overgrown. – looks like a jungle.
 - Farmland assessment (Dave) – No update
 - Next meeting October 6, 2021 - 7:00 PM.