

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: May 27, 2015 (* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++ (abs)

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting May 6, 2015

- Minutes from April meeting were approved as written.
- Town Forest:
 - Question if any profit from logging.
 - Trail clean-up on going (prior to high school kids); both chain sawing and brush cleaning (Brad, Dave, Peter, Ellen). Try to make trail walkable. Later attack buckthorn and honeysuckle. Wait through summer to see if spraying buckthorn made a difference.
 - Need to identify hickory in town forest – cut around it so they will stand out more. Decided not to pursue identifying ash.
 - Phragmites between markers 6 and 7 – hopefully the culverts will help dry the area out.
 - Japanese knotweed (near road) – add this area to fall Round-up application.
 - Benches – Sam got some quotes on benches. Brad took pictures. David suggested using 2” hemlock for new benches. How to remove old benches? How to preserve the old plaques?
 - High School students to pull brush off trail so town can chip – senior project May.
 - Town to do gravel and culvert work (before chipping?). Dredging of canal will also be done when culverts are done.
 - Trail “steps” – wait until culverts put in to see if still needed (near M9 and M12).
 - To do:
 - Decide what to do about the roots.
 - Organize buckthorn pull.
 - Should probably have Joe come back May/June time frame to assess success of buckthorn efforts.
 - Continue cleanup of harvested areas
 - Update Maine Trail Finders - need gpx file of old and new trail. EH and Bill Shane will map with Town’s new GPS in spring. Update verbiage on trail description (EH)

- Bill Shane will let us know when training session for new GPS.
- Grant to inventory ash trees in town - no update; will probably forgo this effort.
- Grant for invasive plant education, control and eradication. Sue – no update
- Invasive plants brochure - Dave G created a preliminary version. Brad had sent changes to town (he was the only one with a formatted version). Would like to see a working version (formatted) to get a better feel for space. Intern will be available in May to work on this.
- Greely Woods – Bill Shane working with land owners about pedestrian easements. Town possibly sell the T-shaped parcel. Need to make sure enough of an easement (50') to get across to other parcels.
- Town owned properties on Range Way – link to Rock Ridge – no update
- Rines Forest – no update
- Vernal pools – no update
- Knight's Pond – town granting a conservation easement at next Town Council meeting (May 11?).
- Ideas/ Project 2015
 - Town Forest – see above
 - Look into some sort of joint meeting between Twin Brooks, Town Forest and Rines Forest committees
 - Arbor Day and tree giveaway (Bill M)
 - Medicinal plant talk (Bill M get info)
 - Cumberland Circle trail – Brad presented idea of scope. Need to map with town's GPS. Brad presented map of railroads and where they cross trails. Can we go under?
- **Next meeting June 3rd 7pm**