

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: February 10, 2015 (* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++
To: CTL&CC members: Tom Gruber + (abs) Susan Nolde (abs)
Peter Bingham+ Brad Hilton *Sam York
Ted Chadbourne (abs) Ellen Hoffman David Young (abs)
David Ginsberg (abs) Bill Mullin

From: Ellen Hoffman
Re: Meeting February 4th, 2015

- Minutes from January meeting were approved as written.
- Town Forest:
 - Logging is in progress
 - Benches (4) – would like to replace with same type – rustic that look like they have been sawn from a log. Idea to see if could be made in high school woodworking shop or at PACE. Need to take pictures and measurements. Would like to also preserve the plaques.
 - Knotweed – address issue in the spring. Look into Joe's recommendations.
 - Trail "steps" – wait until after harvest and culverts put in to see if still needed (near M9 and M12).
 - To do:
 - Decide what to do about the roots.
 - Phragmites along trail – address in the spring
 - Organize buckthorn pull. EH suggested tying this in with a caching event.
 - 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)
- Invasive species (insects) – Bill M sent Allison a thank you note last year after presentation.
- Bill Shane will let us know when training session for new GPS.
- Grant to inventory ash trees in town - Bill M will contact Allison and see if she can point us in the right direction. Bill will also talk to Deb the tree warden in Yarmouth and find out about where to get tags, cost, and when is a good time to inventory trees. Sam spoke with Sue Nolde and she is interested in writing grant proposal. How should the trees be mapped? (no update)
- Grant for invasive plant education, control and eradication. Possible have Sue look into this as well. (no update)

- Locate and map hickory trees in town forest – wait until spring.
- Invasive plants brochure - create one similar to Falmouth's. See how they got funding. Dave G will look into this. (no update)
- “Greely Forest” – 3 interconnected properties between Greely Rd Ext and Cottage Farm (R6 lot 16, R6 lot 15, U13A lot 18). Brad’s previously proposed a motion that the Town Council take the following actions:
 - Assign the name “Greely Forest” to these properties and the existing pedestrian ROW connection between them;
 - Work to legally conserve the “Greely Forest” as permanent open space and specific trail connector use as has occurred over the recent few decades with basically no Town Government or Town Committee management or expense.

Sam will draft a new letter stating our position (Brad’s motion) to Town Council. John J (an abutter) spoke with neighbors about trail – mixed feelings. Council is onboard with idea. Bill Shane mentioned that someone is interested in one of the properties (“T” shaped one) but have the town maintain ROW. There are two points of access to properties: Sparhawk Rd and the dead end. Value as a trail connector.

- Town owned properties on Range Way – link to Rockridge. Take up next Town Council meeting. We should recommend waiting until we can walk property before giving recommendation.
- Rines Forest – no update
- Vernal pools – no update – Sam will contact Penny A to keep us in the loop
- Knights Pond – fundraising on going; vote soon.
- Ideas/ Project 2015
 - Town Forest – see above
 - Look into some sort of joint meeting between Twin Brooks, Town Forest and Rines Forest committees
 - Ash tree survey (trees and Emerald Ash Borer) – see above
 - Arbor Day and tree giveaway
 - Medicinal plant talk (Bill M get info)
 - Cumberland Circle trail – Brad presented idea of scope. Need to map with town’s GPS
- **Next meeting March 4th 7pm**