

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: June 5, 2016 (* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++ (late)

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting June 1st, 2016

- Minutes from May were approved.
- Town Forest remaining issues:
 - Pre-meeting to discuss snowmobile signage. Decided town will pay for new signs; remove the word “maintained” and use “groomed” when referring to the snowmobile club and the Town Forest trails. Also mentioned two smaller signs that need to be addressed. One states snowmobiling only, no walking; This sign needs to be removed. The second sign says no snowmobiles and written in marker says except for club sleds. This should say except groomer sled. Shawn will take care of both these smaller signs.
 - Sam and Ellen walked Town Forest last month and noticed numerous issues. This list is a consolidation of an email that was sent to Bill earlier.
 - Sign at kiosk out of date. Suggest we remove all signs (kiosk, managed, unmanaged and buckthorn pull). Ellen will come up with verbiage for new kiosk sign.
 - Rotate map at kiosk to heading up and add a compass rose to show N. Wait until new trail names and decisions on a few of the other trails (below).
 - Should we leave markers or 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 show the old railroad trail on the map (label as Railroad Trail). Also show where it hooks up with green trail (and entrance on Tuttle Rd).
 - 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.
 - Remove the blue (future trails) from map at M3 and from M1 to M14 and to the Phragmites area.
 - What about the black trail around the landfill area on map? Remove?
 - We noticed a lot of dead and leaning trees next to trail that should be taken down.
 - What should we do about old snowmobile trail? Add corduroy bridge so can walk? Or do we remove from map?
 - Need a marker at triangle (senior housing/back to town hall).

- Question of position of bench on the hill.
 - 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 several times selecting possible trees/plants/interesting items to label. Came up with 50 (ish) items; went back and marked with metal tags. These now need to be mapped so we can see where each is located. Want to try and evenly spread out along both trails. Once selected, need to walk with 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)? Mike lead.
- New benches – Still waiting on hardware. Sam will contact Ed Nolde see if he can help.
- 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 will take the lead.
- 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 will look into this. Also need to make kiosks similar.
- Greely Woods – trails are in great shape (just need signage). Parking will be along shoulder. The existing trail entrance over town land has been improved. Town easement only 30 ft. (originally thought 100 ft.). Brad Hilton is working with a surveyor and Chris Bolduc (public works). Brad will take proposal to Planning Board sometime this summer for approval. Enlist Eagle Scouts to build bridges. After second bridge will be on town land. If get easement over neighbor's property then won't need second bridge. Dave Young lead.
- Circle Trail: Connecting trails into and out of Cumberland. Paul W lead. Paul has mapped a lot of the trails in town and where they connect to neighboring towns. He will send us shape files digitally (needs to be cleaned up first). Overlay trails onto Town maps. Idea of destination instead of circling Cumberland:
 - West Side trail – Yarmouth
 - Knights Pond ->North Yarmouth
 - Greely and Tuttle -> Harris Rd (wet)
 - Rines Forest->Hadlock Community Forest Falmouth -> Blackstrap Rd.
 - Twin Brook ->Town Forest
 - Rines Forest->Blanchard Rd.->Greely Rd
 - Greely Woods->Power lines->Knights Pond (BB Hill)
 - Town Forest->Rt 9->Falmouth (Hadlock Community Forest Falmouth)

Keep in mind goals; development cutting off connectors. Need to plan this out – create network. Need to put trails into town GIS. Put into Planning Board check

list. Problem crossing RR tracks. Need to adopt as policy – part of review process. Strategic planning – interconnect ability. Paul and Shawn will work on this.

- Trail Guide – on hold pending trail information
- Rines Forest – Paul mentioned that the trails are in need of work. Issues with some trail signs and muddy in places. The map is unreadable. Invite Rines committee to possibly do a cleanup one Saturday. Sam will contact Bob Waterhouse.
- Vernal pools – no update
- Education – bats, brown tail moth – no update. Other ideas?
- **Next meeting July 6th 7pm**