

## **Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission**

Date: September 12, 2011

To: CTL&CC members: (\* = Chair; + = liaison TC) Steve Moriarty +  
Penny Asherman Ellen Hoffman \*Sam York  
Ted Chadbourne Paul Weiss (abs) David Young

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting September 7th, 2011

- Minutes from July meeting were not discussed. There was no meeting in August.
- Jackie Rodgers from Healthy Casco Bay attended meeting just to touch base with the committee and let us know what types of services her organization offers.
- Maine Trail Finders – EH gave status update on Rines Forest and Town Forest trails on Maine Trail Finders. Basically all is done and Joel will move descriptions to live website.
- The remainder of meeting was spent discussing the Forest Management Plan for the Town Forest. Jay B. from IFM, Bill Shane and Sally Stockwell also attended. Jay gave presentation on preliminary version of management plan. Discussion ensued:
  - Cut/don't cut large back section 4. This is the section that abuts the Doane property that was recently clear-cut. Sally very concerned if we follow recommendation (cut 40%) it will drastically alter character of the stand.
  - How to deal with invasive species (buckthorn and Phragmites), and how do we pay for it. Possibly look into grants and help for dealing with invasive species (Maine Conservation Corps).
  - How to thin the other stands? Do we use existing trails and make them wider or are new trails cut and possibly use those at a later time. Jay said if new trails are cut then they will be perpendicular to existing trails to minimize visual impact.
  - What section of existing trail to use as a landing area? Possibly enter through abandon railroad.
  - Concern for New England Cotton Tail. Jay will contact biologist at IFW.
  - Suggested putting pictures in plan to show different stands and invasive species.
  - Trail needs to be cleaned up of old signage. There are several places where signs are needed (direction to complete loop unclear).
  - How do we deal with trail obstructions (roots)?

- Recommended to approve plan as presented and discuss details at October meeting. Recommendation approved.
- Plan needs to be presented to Town Council.
- Planning board projects – no update
- Vernal Pools – no update
- **Next meeting October 5th 7:00**