

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: May 12, 2011

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting May 4th, 2011

- Minutes from April meeting were approved. Bill Shane was in attendance.
- Need to re-vitalize commission. Sam compiled a list with our inputs (via email) of suggested changes:
 - Understanding of mission for prospective members
 - Annual goals
 - Disciplined agenda, focused discussion
 - Even distribution of workloads
 - Vice chairperson
 - Ensure project visibility; promotion to attract new members and increase enthusiasm in the commission
 - Change day of meeting
 - Change time to 7:00
 - Limit length of meeting
 - ~~Chairperson on member interview committee~~—not allowed

Comments:

Need 1 page mission of our committee and date/time of meetings for new applicants.

EH will contact Chip to see if we can get new member packet digital.

Distribution of workload – take leadership for a goal (accountable).

Better time management in meetings – should avoid backtracking when members come in late.

Focus on raising visibility – channel 2; Town Crier.

We need to let Steve Moriarty know that we are in need of members.

- Planning board projects:
 - We need to get back into reviewing upcoming projects.

- Need to preview and have comments in planning board members' packets. PB meets 3rd Tuesday of the month.
- Should also attend meetings again
- Need a better understanding of what is on radar screen. Tom G will get info from Carla. DY will look over packets before our meeting. PA has Beginning with Habitat maps to help visualize project's impact.
- Project Canopy – Town forest walk with Jay B. took place on May 1st (Sam, Ted, Ellen (and Luna). Sam summarized findings:
 - Condition of trails – 30% roots, 20% wet, 30% negotiable, 20% rough
 - Invasive species presence (buckthorn and Phragmites (common reed))
 - Education components dilapidated
 - Managed, um-managed parcels
 - Signage, trail markers required
 - Need/opportunity for more trails
 - Great variation in scenery
- IFM (Jay B) will begin forest inventory in 1-2 weeks. Completion by May 16th. Develop recommendations for harvest treatments based on: inventory data, field observations, and Town and Commission inputs e.g. managed/unmanaged, and integration with Doane Property. Draft target: June 3, 2011. Have Jay come to June 1st meeting.

Also: forest management as revenue neutral; dealing with invasive plants can eat up profits; and need recommendation to Town Council for harvest (after Labor Day). Bill S will look at grant for invasive species (Casco Bay Estuary Partnership for Invasive species removal).

- **Goals**
 - Trail guide (also look at connecting with Falmouth trails).
 - Forestry plan details
 - Vernal pool presentation – 2nd year research. Need to do a final report – recommendations, summary; written report or a presentation? Can we get a summary report for Cumberland from state? Give feedback and importance of vernal pools. PW do draft. Report in annual report.
 - TC - Possibly get Sally to write a summary of Town Forest in annual report. Why important to town.
 - Maine tree club – on site education at Rines Forest - late September, early October would work. Make a community event – let schools know.
- **Next meeting June 1st 7:00 – NOTE new time**