

Cumberland Town Lands and Conservation Commission

Date: March 1, 2011

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting February 9th, 2011

- Last meeting's minutes were not discussed.
- Project Canopy – Most of the meeting was spent discussing the development of the town forest management plan. This is what is proposed in our 2011 Project Canopy Presumpscot Watershed Assistance Grant application. Also in attendance were Bill Shane, Steve Moriarty, Sally Stockwell, Jennifer West and Jay Braunscheidel (town forester). Tom Gruber chaired the meeting.
 1. Maine Tree Club – part of cooperative extension of University of Maine. Training to identify Maine Trees.
 2. Regional meeting of Maine Conservation Commissions at Cabela's – Feb 1st. Re: Lawns for Lobsters initiative and Topsham's Natural Resource Plan
 3. Forest management plan by Jay – using Rines Forest management plan as an example. WoodWise type plan funded by Project Canopy. Project Canopy is run by the Maine forest service but uses federal dollars.
 4. Components of plan
 - a. History – SS brought documentation and old management plan (1988). 100 acres donated by Elizabeth Drowne 1891. Ernest Rand planted 1928 along with students at Greely Institute- part of agriculture program. Sections planted, other sections grew up from old farm fields. Land fill (dump). 1950 Drowne Road School. Land fill closed in 1988. Capped next several years. Goal to be an educational facility and open space for town. 1988 Forestry plan – never fully implemented. 1990 formation of Town Forest Board. Recommendations from forest service updated plan. Harvested with horses for a few years. Harvest from front and leave back half unmanaged. Eagle scouts did trails and bridges. Lion's Club did some bridges. Portions used for ball fields and Town Hall. Approx. 75 acres left.
 - b. Soil classification
 - c. Forest land productivity – which trees growing.
 - d. Natural wetlands polygon – runoff from (capped) landfill.
 - e. Biodiversity
 - f. Invasive species – need to take stock of.
 - g. Inventory – need to quantify (forest stands)
 - h. Maine historic preservation areas

5. Preserve – context what else we have in Town – how does Town Forest fit in?
 6. Ted C concerned Jay might be too restricted. Bill Shane said this would not be the case. Jay give Town background report before plan finalized – after acquire info. Ted also pointed out that a managed forest (as opposed to a stagnant one) “grows more value while generating oxygen and absorbing carbon dioxide which would otherwise increase the earth’s ozone rate”.
 7. SS mentioned trails narrow – 2 feet – basically a foot trail through woods.
 8. Final plan by July 2011
 9. Adjacent parcel – Doane property 59 houses proposed 3-5 years – Selling point next to Town Forest.
 10. Plan needs to be reviewed by district forester because it is a WoodWise type plan – standard protocol.
 11. Wait to hear about status of grant.
- **Next meeting March 2nd 7:30**