

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

Date: December 8, 2013 (\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; +=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++ (abs)  
To: CTL&CC members: Brad Hilton Brian Restuccia (abs)  
Penny Asherman Ellen Hoffman \*Sam York  
Ted Chadbourne Bill Mullin David Young (abs)  
Tom Gruber + Susan Nolde Peter Bingham+

From: Ellen Hoffman  
Re: Meeting December 4th, 2013

- Minutes from November approved. No true minutes for October but include here for the record.

### **START OF OCTOBER MEETING**

Date: October 27, 2013(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; +=Town Mgr.) Bill Shane++  
To: CTL&CC members: Brad Hilton Brian Restuccia (abs)  
Penny Asherman Ellen Hoffman \*Sam York  
Ted Chadbourne (abs) Bill Mullin (abs) David Young (abs)  
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From: Ellen Hoffman  
Re: Meeting October 2nd, 2013

- Minutes from September meeting were not discussed (no quorum).
- Project Canopy- Sam Y spoke with Jan Santerre. Said we still need an education component to fulfill our grant award. Sam will counter with all the work we have done in the Town Forest so far: Joe Anderson's invasive species management plan; cleaning and preserving the signs; public walk with Bob Bittenbender; several site walks with the Lands Committee and Joe Anderson; and trail write up on Maine Trail Finders. Public works - in-kind labor for signs 12 hours. Bridge construction by town and sidewalk to complete the loop (\$). Logging should commence by end of the year.
- Town Forest - harvest of areas 2, 4 and 5 scheduled for middle to late December. Brad and Dave walked trail and suggested that any of the small trees cut in section 2 could be used as a bridge over the wet areas. They also suggested creating a parallel trail in area where the roots are really bad. Bill S suggested doing a presentation at Nov/Dec Town Council meeting about the status of work in the Town Forest. (who?) Site walk of forest with Joe Anderson to go over location of invasive species again. Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - meet at salt shed.
- Planning Board Project - nothing discussed.
- Rines Forest - no update
- Blueberry Hill logging - no update
- Vernal pools - no update

- Invasive species grant search - no update
- Continuing projects/goals for 2013:
  - Invasive species education: Possibly do a fall presentation with someone from Cooperative Extension.
  - Educational site walk of Rines Forest scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> (1:00 pm) with the Maine Tree Club. - Done
  - Update Trail Guide. Sam will contact Brian Sterns to see status of trail system (no update). No update on trail connection between Falmouth trail and Rines Forest. Penny mentioned town looking to buy a Trimble GPS (grant through Norcross Foundation). Use for a variety of Town-wide purposes.
- **Next meeting November 6th 7pm.**

#### END OF OCTOBER MEETING

- Invasive insect presentation – Allison Kanoti – Forest Entomologist with the Maine Forest Service. Presentation took up most of meeting. She discussed several of the more harmful invasive pests found in Maine (a few that have not been found in Cumberland yet) including: the Brown Spruce Longhorned Beetle, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Elongated Hemlock Scale, and the Winter Moth. Distributed many handouts and reference materials. Issues:
  - Best management practices – can't eradicate but control
  - Educate public; some species like Asian Longhorn beetle – early detection very important. Emerald Ash Borer spread in firewood – under bark - causes rapid mortality.
  - Identification of signs of infestation
  - Town issues: should identify the significant trees within the town. What trees is the Town responsible for? Abundance of host trees. Use of biological controls on town trees. Who makes decision and how is decision made when an infestation found? Quick survey for Ash Trees – 1<sup>st</sup> week in May – look for trees with no leaves since Ash doesn't leaf out until later.
  - Community action – how to identify, how to mitigate spread.
- Town Forest – No logging as of this meeting. Finalizing plans and waiting for right conditions. Landing area almost complete. Road in from Tuttle. Tom G will check with Bill Shane for further update.
- Penny will see if she can get financials for logging in Farwell (Seekins) Forest.
- Tom G will check with Bill Shane about status of GPS town was planning on getting through a Norcross Foundation Grant.

- Comprehensive Plan – rezoning issue – provide input to Planning Board (this should go on agenda for next meeting).
- Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – workshop 6:00 Property discussion of Cottage Farm and Greely Rd properties. IFM will also be giving council update on Town Forest cutting. Also council accepting gift of 30 acre parcel next to Rines Forest.
- Rines Forest – no update
- Blueberry Hill logging – no update
- Vernal pools – no update
- Invasive species grant search – no update
- Need to discuss if should change officers on a regular basis (perhaps yearly). Put on agenda for next month.
- Ideas for Goals/Projects for 2014. These are open for discussion and are in no particular order – just listed what was mentioned.
  - Arbor Day – tree handout with 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade class. Maybe this year also include an educational component about invasive insects.
  - Invasive species presentation to Mr. Madden’s MS class to tie in with their tree project.
  - Invasive species education: Collaborative effort – regional – surrounding towns
  - Conservation subdivision ordinance – currently in pre-draft stage. Work with Carla to improve.
  - Knights Pond
  - Committee to work on trail efforts – plans, improvements, guide (publication either online or hardcopy), recommendations.
  - Tree City
  - Backyard habitat (maybe tie in with New England Cottontail habitat).
  - Committee to look at Forest management of Town Lands regarding logging.
  - Volunteer Core – similar to Falmouth – group of volunteers from town available to work on projects.
- **Next meeting January 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm.**