

LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Oversight Committee)

Town of Cumberland
290 Tuttle Road
Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: March 8, 2018

(* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Town Mgr.; ^(T) = trails SC; ^(F) = forest SC)

Bill Shane++; Tom Gruber +; Peter Bingham+

To: Members:

Anne Bulger (abs)	^(F) Ted Chadbourne (late)	^(T) Rachael Becker McEntee (abs)
Janene Gorham (abs)	^(F) Denny Gallaudet (abs)	^(T) John Jensenius ^{vice*}
Ellen Hoffman	^(F) Tim Nastro (abs)	^(T) Shawn McBairty (abs)
Susan Nolde (abs)	^(F) Linda Putman (abs)	^(T) Paul Weiss
*Mike Schwindt	^(F) Timothy Schneider (abs)	
Sam York	^(F) Sally Stockwell (abs)	
David Young	^(F) Eli Wilson (abs)	

Note: Only members of the Oversight Committee are expected to attend Oversight Committee meeting.

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting March 7th, 2018

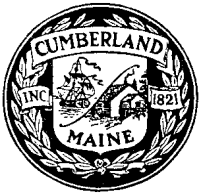
- February's minutes were approved as written.
- Short meeting due to storm. Forest subcommittee did not meet this month.
- Oversight Committee (Mike)
 - Bill report: There was no Bill report this month.
 - Maine Association of Conservation Commissions – meeting 10th (Saturday). Several members plan to attend.
 - Draft of Rines report (50 acres next to Rines forest) – to be presented Monday (12th) evening to the Town Council. Looking for approval to split appraisal cost with Land Trust.
 - Paul wrote draft, final comments need to be incorporated in; comments should be sent to Mike.
 - Paul mentioned there is a significant vernal pool within the 150' wetland restriction.
 - Motion for a representative to take recommendation of commission (with any last minute changes) to Town Council.
 - Paul reiterated the importance of this property on multiple fronts – especially its proximity to Rines forest.
 - Bill suggested that a map of the Cross Cumberland Trail be included since property's importance to this trail was mentioned.
 - Motion was seconded – passed (Ted abstained).
 - Suggested that Mike should do actual presentation and Paul speak as a resident to importance of this parcel.
 - Committee recommends authorizing splitting cost of appraisal.



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- Sam asked for clarification why Town Council leery to spend more money on conservation. Peter B – said it was a balancing act. No funds for maintenance – how to pay for spraying? Sam said Town Council should have an open mind and look at opportunities that come up. Paul mentioned most of Falmouth’s residence surveyed want land preservation and open space. We are currently using 2009 Comprehensive Plan as to what Cumberland residents want. Bill suggested ad hoc subcommittee do a land use/policy survey.
- Revisit L&CC structure – recommendations, to update ordinance going in front of Town Council on March 26th.
- Arbor Day – too late this year. If interested, need to start earlier. Need contact in classroom.
- Sam and Penny (Land Trust) quarterly meeting – next meeting up in the air.
- Trails Subcommittee (John)
 - Oceanview at Cumberland trails: The following is a summary (from John) on the issue:

On February 20, John Jensenius presented the Commission’s review and recommendations on the preliminary plans for Oceanview at Cumberland subdivision to the Planning Board. The Planning Board recommended that Oceanview continue to work with the Commission to work out details on access to the Oceanview trails, and in particular, the existing snowmobile trail. On February 26, a subsequent meeting was held between Oceanview, the Town Manager, and representatives of the Commission and snowmobile club to discuss possible options, including a trail easement to the Town. Following the meeting, Oceanview considered the options and decided that they would not provide an easement to the Town, but rather would provide the Town with a license for use of the snowmobile trail, reviewable and renewable on a yearly basis. In addition, Oceanview intends to allow public access on the other trails in the subdivision.
 - Cut-through trail from Farwell Ave → Middle School/High School – currently up in the air.
 - Cross Cumberland Trail – Connection from Blanchard Rd → Blueberry Hill. Issue with property owner (Don Lee), does not want his property “promoted”. Look at other options; no update.
 - Trail stewards – will need to provide “instructions”; need to compile list of properties.
- Forest Subcommittee (Sally) - no meeting this month.
- Oversight committee – special projects
 - Dave - ad hoc properties subcommittee – no update.
 - Butterfly garden (Mike and Ellen) – no update: on hold until spring.
 - Town Forest
 - Nature Trail – (Mike and Ellen) No update: on hold until spring. No update on source for funding for plant labels.



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- Still need additional location signs (arrows with destinations and distances) and the Cumberland Trail logo at the Village Green entrance: on hold until spring.
- To do: Need to update information on website – with latest map; print some out for public; update Maine Trail Finders.
- Invasive species: Sam suggested this be the focus of a new subcommittee. John thought an ad hoc subcommittee to start would be better. Bill mentioned money in budget for a grinder (like a burr) to put on an excavator; mechanical means to treat some of the invasive plants. Also mention should increase communication with Falmouth and Yarmouth as to what they are doing. Bill mentioned should include town forester in the invasive species discussions.
- Project for 2018
 - Butterfly garden (BFG) – need bench, and put up bird houses
 - Operation Pollinator – similar to BFG – work with Toby create garden in Val Halla. Special seed mixture to attract pollinators. Also plant some of Mike's tree seedlings.
 - Nature trail in Town Forest – need distance signs and kiosk
 - Trail maps on line – time consuming. Where will the information come from? Format?
 - Need to add other ideas - discussion
- **Next meeting April 4th 7:30 pm**