



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: November 11, 2018

(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++ = Town Mgr.; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Bill Shane ++; Tom Gruber +; Peter Bingham + (abs)

To: Members:

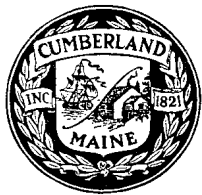
Jennifer Grasso	<sup>(F)</sup> Ted Chadbourne	<sup>(T)</sup> Rachael Becker McEntee
Ellen Hoffman	<sup>(F)</sup> Denny Gallaudet	<sup>(T)</sup> Steven Fitzgerald ✓
John Jensenius vice*	<sup>(F)</sup> Gordon Lichter ✓	<sup>(T)</sup> John Jensenius ✓
Steven Knowles (abs)	<sup>(F)</sup> Tim Nastro	<sup>(T)</sup> Matthew Leclair ✓
*Mike Schwindt	<sup>(F)</sup> Linda Putnam	<sup>(T)</sup> Shawn McBreairty
Jennifer Taylor	<sup>(F)</sup> Timothy Schneider	<sup>(T)</sup> Paul Weiss ✓
David Young	<sup>(F)</sup> Sally Stockwell ✓	
Sam York	<sup>(F)</sup> Eli Wilson	

**Note:** Only members of the Commission and voting members of the subcommittees need attend. “✓” indicates subcommittee member attended Commission meeting.

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting November 7, 2018

- October's minutes were approved with a minor correction – building permits reset every three years.
- Welcomed new members
  - Jennifer Grasso, Steven Knowles, and Jennifer Taylor to Commission
  - Gordon Lichter to Forest subcommittee
  - Stephen Fitzgerald and Matthew Leclair to Trails subcommittee
- The chair appointed Denny Gallaudet to assess the conservation impact of projects referred to us by the Planning Board.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report:
    - Planning Board (November 20)
      - Orchard Rd – amendment to approved major subdivision. Abutter challenge in court; resulted in minor change.
      - Christmas Creek (Tuttle Rd) sketch plan review. Site walk Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:30.
      - Public Hearing – recommendation to Town Council on amendments to zoning ordinance caregiver overlay district (regulation of medical marijuana, and dispensaries). Commercial areas – 3 zones along routes 100, 9 and 1.
      - Public Hearing – recommendation to Town Council to amend the zoning ordinance to add a portion of a lot at Greely Rd to the senior housing overlay district. Ocean View – developer agreed to keep farm, and horse barn. Development will in behind the tree line.
  - Town Forest Trails (Mike and Ellen):



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- Directional and distance signs – several have been posted, two need to be slightly modified, and one waiting until path at old Marker 7 is better cleared. Some of the debris has been cut, but “path” through woods not in great shape.
- All old marker posts except 8 and 9 have been removed.
- Vernal pool info sign – work in progress to display.
- Need to update Maine Trail Finders.
- Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen)
  - Plant ID markers
    - Still waiting on the remaining markers to be delivered
    - A few of the trees are too small to attach ID signs. Will need another approach
    - Some of the plants are off the trail – will need very small signs mounted on posts to indicate location of plants.
    - Need to decide how to label two trees that are beside the bridge. Can’t reach.
    - Need to finalize map – location of plants.
    - Need to put up some sort of plant location indicator (just during the winter) for those very close to the trail, so the markers don’t get crushed.
- BFG – Need final weeding/cutting back of plants. Need to have Public Works put up snow fence to protect from snowmobilers.
- Val Halla – Mike and Ellen
  - Operation Pollinator/Monarchs in the Rough – no update
- Land ID (Dave) – have previously established criteria - no update. Open Space Plan has not been updated since 2000. Most parcels mentioned in 2000 plan have purchased.
- Town considering acquiring 50 acre extension of Rines Forest. This committee has previously submitted an endorsement of Town’s portion of appraisal cost. Option to purchase expires June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019.
- Invasive species (Sam)
  - Mentioned that he hopes to repeat meeting with Falmouth and Yarmouth similar to last year’s informational meeting. Try and coordinate activities with State’s activities – what has / hasn’t worked.
  - Browntail moth issue (Bill) – spraying very controversial – too many landowners opt out. Hard to reach webs in trees if hand spray. Attended meeting in Yarmouth – not very encouraging. Only one researcher (Dr. Groden at University Maine Orno) looking into effective controls. Need money for research – how to attack webs, how to apply. Public workshop in January – get citizen’s input.
- Trails Subcommittee (John)
  - Knights Pond (Paul)
    - Two new small bridges (Pleasant Valley Rd side) over streams
    - Yellow Trail was improved and extended



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- Greely Woods – Deed released to Town. Town gave former owner gift letter.
- OceanView – No update – snowmobile permissive use.
- Christmas Creek (Vine property) – 20 houses. Some sections very wet. Several public easements. Will trails be public and easily accessible?
- Rines Forest – No update
- Loop Trail at Broad Cove – No update.
- Forest Subcommittee (Sally)
  - Timber inventory at Knights Pond on track to move forward with survey. Need to work with the two land trusts and two towns.
  - Buckthorn control in Rines - trial plots with four test methods (small plots):
    - Grind flat, wipes out everything
    - Cut down to 4" stems treat with cyclocate by manually painting onto cambium layer.
    - Cut to stumps, spray with herbicide.
    - Buckthorn baggy – put over stump to eliminate growth – prevents re-sprout – no chemicals.
  - Try to suppress since can't eliminate. Paul objected to the herbicide approach.
  - Harvesting in Greely Rd side of Twin Brook. Sally mentioned need to make sure that the adopted guiding principles are being followed.
  - Date for informational presentation tentatively set for **December 11<sup>th</sup>** 6:00- 8:00pm. (This is a time changed since the meeting.) Open house directed at 15 acre or larger land owners, but open to public. Info panel/ discussion with experts. Topics such as forest management ideas, conservation easements, tree growth, managing forest for Maine birds. Experts such as private forestry consultant, district forester, and land trust representative. Televised.
- New Business
  - Building permits (Dave) - should the number of building permits issued be lower?
    - Mike distributed Town Lands and Conservation Commission handout describing our purpose and duties. Building permits are outside our purview. What outcome do we want?
    - Bill reiterated that land use policy is not under our purview.
    - Paul – we should identify key critical areas, stresses connectivity.
    - Dave – what do we want the Town to look like in 20 years?
    - Sam – need vision – how to get there not important (buy or acquire easements).
    - Conservation subdivision ordinance should have a public hearing this year.
    - Sally – suggested updating open space plan. Previous plan looked at key resources but not parcels. How does this mesh with development?
    - Tom suggested Mike put this issue in December agenda.
- Next meeting December 5th 7:30 pm