



# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: January 3, 2019

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

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

To: Members:

Jenn Grasso (abs)	<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 McBairty
Jennifer Taylor	<sup>(F)</sup> Timothy Schneider	
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 January 2, 2019

- December’s minutes were approved as written.
- Officers: Mike - Chair; John -Vice-Chair; and Ellen – Secretary, were all voted unanimously back into the same positions.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report:
    - Planning Board (January 15<sup>th</sup>)
      - Belted Cow: Public hearing, amendment to an approved major site plan to reduce the size of the proposed building (Route 1).
      - Conservation Subdivision ordinance: Public hearing – recommendation to the Town Council to repeal and replace Chapter 250 – Subdivision Ordinance, to include a conservation subdivision option. Should be out of Planning Board next week and to the Council by end of January. Expected to be approved. 70% of Town now designated RR1 or RR2. Conservation Subdivision would require 50% of the land go to conservation.
    - Mentioned the snowmobile trail through Oceanview at Cumberland (Cumberland Crossing) permissive used only. Trail can only be used before 7pm. If permission to use trail rescinded, will need to go in front of Council. No public easement. Three bridges (roughly 8 ft. by 20 ft.) will be installed this winter. Map of surrounding area displaying trails was distributed.
    - Mentioned that new single family housing reported 821 permits over the last 19 years (2000 through 2018) bringing in \$1.2 million in permit fees.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Town Forest Trails and Nature Trail (Mike and Ellen):
  - The remaining ID markers (those missing from initial shipment) were added to nature trail.
  - Added off-trail indicator signs on either trees or stakes to indicate plants not clearly visible from trail.
  - To do:
    - Need kiosk at the Drowne Rd entrance.
    - Talked about moving the Drown Rd entrance up the hill to the existing driveway and path. Currently the official entrance is down a hill and difficult to see and to get to, especially in winter, because of the hill. The area next to the driveway has knotweed that would need to be cleaned up (and area flattened) if kiosk to be installed there.
    - Old marker post 8 and 9 need to be removed.
    - In spring we will make final pass through and get updated map to put online
    - Update info for Maine Trail Finders.
- BFG
  - To-do
    - Spring put up some birdhouses, and possibly a bench
- Val Halla – Mike and Ellen
  - Operation Pollinator/Monarchs in the Rough – no update until spring. Will touch base with Toby mid to late winter to discuss next steps.
- Land Identification (Dave) – The purpose is to identify the best parcels within the town if the properties become available. Dave now has updated matrix (from Paul). Need to do smoke test on town owned properties to see if need to readjust criteria. Next meeting to be determined (Dave, Sam, John, and Mike).
- Invasive plant species (Sam)
  - Planning to host a joint meeting in spring with Falmouth, Yarmouth and some of the local land trust, similar to previous meeting.
  - Presentation to this committee of senior project by a Greeley student looking into issues with Japanese Knotweed in spring.
  - Sam mentioned that he is trying to garner interest at the state level for invasive plant species. He said it doesn't seem to be as much as an issue up north. Sally has some contacts that Sam can use as a resource.
  - Bill mentioned declaration of public health issue for brown tail moth for Cumberland and Yarmouth. Trying to get more research dollars. Asked if this is something we want to look into; spraying is not really an option. Maybe form an umbrella group – subcommittee.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Trails Subcommittee (John)
  - Greely Woods – John gave an overview of trails that make up Greely Woods – most are marked from, Blanchard Rd to Greely Rd Ext. Permissive use. There is still a bridge issue (log bridge – hard to cross on skies).
  - Waterfall trail – a short walk along Blanchard Rd now connects the Rines Forest Waterfall Trail to the Blue Trail (as shown in handout) across Brad Hilton’s property to Greely Woods.
  - Need to decide on trail signage (near parking areas) and standardize.
  - Christmas Creek (Vine property) - no update
  - Rines Forest –No update
  - Loop Trail at Broad Cove – No update.
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Sally)
  - Discussed Woodland Landowner Open House to take place Wednesday January 30<sup>th</sup> (6-8) at Town Hall –hosted by this committee. Foresters and wildlife professionals will be on hand to discuss how to take care of woods and water for wildlife. The first hour will be broadcast via town’s cable station. Format:
    - 6:00 pm-7:00 pm presentations on the Town’s forest management guidelines; how the district forester can be of help; and advantages of enrolling in the Tree Growth or Open Space tax programs.
    - 7:00 pm-8:00 pm rotate between tables to visit with experts in wildlife habitat management, forest management, local land trusts and more.
- New Business
  - Assessing the risk of pesticides and herbicides
    - (Jenn G) – Issue of banning the use of pesticides and herbicides on private property. Tentative presentation at January meeting – no update.
    - (Jennifer T) - Quantitative risk of using herbicides to control buckthorn and the brown tail moth. Should do a quantitative risk assessment. Possible presentation – no update.
  - (Jenn G) Educational component – outreach/ Arbor Day – no update.
  - List of proposed projects/ideas that was compiled several years ago as well as a list of 101 potential conservation commission projects compiled by the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions was distributed. To be used as a starting point for discussion of future projects.
    - Idea of a pesticide ordinance. Handout with links to South Portland, Portland, and Falmouth’s Pesticide ordinances.
    - Land use study – Peter mentioned he doesn’t think the council would be too interested.
  - Bill mentioned that Val Halla will receive ASCP (Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program) certification by the summer.
- Next meeting February 6, 7:30 pm