

# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: December 5, 2019

(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Code enforcement officer; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Bill Longley ++; Tom Gruber +; George Turner +

To: Members:

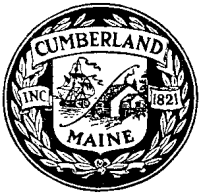
Jenn Grasso	<sup>(F)</sup> Ted Chadbourne	<sup>(F)</sup> Timothy Schneider	<sup>(T)</sup> Rachael Becker McEntee
Ellen Hoffman	<sup>(F)</sup> Melissa Cott	<sup>(F)</sup> *Sally Stockwell ✓	<sup>(T)</sup> Stephen Fitzgerald ✓
John Jensenius vice*	<sup>(F)</sup> Denny Gallaudet ✓		<sup>(T)</sup> Peter Garsoe
Steven Knowles (abs)	<sup>(F)</sup> Rhonda Grigg		<sup>(T)</sup> *John Jensenius ✓
*Mike Schwindt	<sup>(F)</sup> Gordon Lichter		<sup>(T)</sup> Matthew Leclair ✓
Jennifer Taylor (abs)	<sup>(F)</sup> Linda Putnam ✓		<sup>(T)</sup> Shawn McBreairty
David Young			<sup>(T)</sup> Don Stowell ✓
Sam York			

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

From: Ellen Hoffman

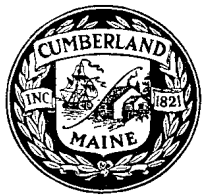
Re: Meeting December 4, 2019

- November minutes were approved as written.
- Commission (Mike)
  - Bill report (Bill L):
    - Contract with the new forester has been signed and copies distributed at meeting.
    - No Planning Board meeting in December.
    - OceanView I (Tuttle Rd) under construction. 11/52 permits have been issued.
    - Christmas Creek – under construction. 1 /20 permits issued, and four lots sold.
    - Orchard Rd subdivision – road has been constructed; no permits issued yet.
    - Town sand, salt and compost facility - under construction and on track to be completed by end of the year.
    - OceanView II (Greely Rd) – Possibly before Planning Board in January 2020.
    - Cumberland Historic Society building - move on hold for now.
    - Property at 174 Main St - gas pumps have been removed by CN Brown. Project before planning board for site plan review in January 2020.
    - Solar Farm should be online soon. Denny suggested having an opening ceremony inviting appropriate lawmakers.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Climate Action Plan (Denny – part of the Cumberland Climate Action Team): Question as to whether this is something the Commission is interested in taking up, considering sub-committee status. Everything has been ad hoc to this point – no energy committee or a sustainability coordinator in town. Also question if this is necessary for the Town to take this on. Possibly group of 4 or 5 individuals come up with thoughts or ideas.
  - This blends in nicely with the Forest sub-committee – trees are carbon sinks.
  - Mike suggested Denny draft a charter (what the group would work on) – pass around for comments.
  - Should have input / representative from Planning Board, so can have insight into new or changes to ordinances, and building codes.
  - It was noted that ordinances and building codes can be stricter than those of the State.
  - Should also have input from MSAD51.
  - George thinks good idea. Straw vote – all in favor.
  - Should sub-committee include members of community?
- Other items (Mike):
  - Rines amendment – 51 acres added to existing forest. Need a management plan by March (120 days) as per Community Forest Grant requirement. Sally suggested using the Rines Forest management plan from 4-2010 as a starting point. She will take first pass at plan; Rachael and John will give feedback. Mike mentioned we need the grant awards document from Town before we can move forward. Sally mentioned that the timber management plan does not need to be updated by the March deadline, but does need to be updated.
  - The Godsoe property is a 60-acre parcel adjacent to the Rines, donated to the Town several years ago. This property will either need to be accessed and managed as a stand-alone property, or, more likely, included in with the Rines Management and Rines Forest Management plans. There is no time sensitive date pending with this 60-acre parcel.
  - Greely Forest – need forest management plan (38 acres) according to the easements. There is no timeline. This should be done after Rines management plan.
  - Rines trail changes – tabled – Matt Warner from CCLT could not attend meeting. Sally noted that all trail work should be coordinated with CCLT, Trails and Forest Sub-committees and Town Forester.
  - Mike mentioned that Ted Bosarge had sent a letter Town complaining that his No Trespassing signs have been removed. Asked members to be alert to people removing signs. It was suggested that a game or wildlife camera could be installed in the area.
  - Thoughts on what the Town should look like in 100 years. Need to hold a workshop to discuss long term impacts. Mike will send out a reminder for all to respond. Mike handed out a subdivision criteria printout to use as a starting point.



## TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION (Commission)

- Trails Subcommittee (John):
  - Greely Woods – Bridge was built without permission on Peter Garsoe's property. Peter now does not want the trail on his property, so the Green Trail has been rerouted onto Brad Hilton's land.
  - OceanView/snowmobile trail – Some work has been completed; there are still stumps that need to be removed.
  - Rines Forest trails – Sally mentioned that trails in the forest need attention – they are suffering from overuse. Should also use best practices around trails – better drainage or bog boards. Maine Conservation Core has good guidelines. John said that the new forester needs to be involved. Matt (of the Land Trust) agrees that some trails need to be rerouted. Make sure in compliance with DEP. Sally also mentioned that better signs are needed at junctions – unclear which trails snowmobiles are allowed on. Shawn needs to be aware of this.
  - Future
    - Finalize the two easements across private properties for access to Greely Woods.
    - Look into other possible connections/easements for Greely Woods.
    - Christmas Creek and Crossing Brook – continue working with developer.
    - Improve connection between Rt. 9 and Range Rd through Turkey Lane – rough, needs lots of work.
    - Twin Brooks – Sam mentioned the Wilderness Trail very boggy in the springtime. He wondered if there were any plans to improve trail. Also look at connection of Twin Brooks to Christmas Creek.
    - GPS'ing/mapping/descriptions of all Town trails/properties.
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (Sally)
  - Most of their meeting was getting the new forester (Paul Larrivee Jr) up to speed. Need to meet with Jeremy Stultz (former Town forester) to get all IFM documents.
  - Need to update Rines Forest management plan to include recent additions.
  - Need to schedule a walk on Town properties (Rines and Knights Pond) with new forester.
  - Determine next steps on controlling buckthorn in Rines Forest.
  - Need to touch base with Jeff Storey about harvesting in Twin Brooks.
- Grants
  - Project Canopy – State has grants to help with management plans. Requests due by April. Use for Knights Pond now and Greely Woods later.
  - Tom and Jenn will submit application for a Community Development Block Grant for tackling invasive species. Applications due December 11. Maybe work with other towns.



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- Invasive species (Sam)
  - Knotweed - Need to revisit roadside spraying – not much effect beyond 20 ft. Sally counters that effect more than cosmetic – helps limit spreading. Knotweed is extremely aggressive, need to get ahead of it.
  - Browntail Moth – need to evaluate spraying. How effective if residents opt out?
  - Need to map out an approach to attacking invasive species in the future. Mike, Dave and Sam will brainstorm ideas.
- Next meeting January 8, 7:30.