



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: January 7, 2021

(** = town manager; * = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Code enforcement officer; ^(T) = trails SC; ^(F) = forest SC)

Bill Shane**, Bill Longley ++; Tom Gruber + (abs); George Turner + (abs); Allison Foster+

To: Members:

Jennifer Bell

Sam York

^(F) Ted Chadbourne

^(T) Shaun Breton

Jenn Grasso

David Young

^(F) Melissa Cott

^(T) Stephen Fitzgerald

Matt Grondin (abs)

^(F) Denny Gallaudet ✓

^(T) *John Jensenius ✓

Ellen Hoffman

^(F) John Leavitt

^(T) Matthew Leclair

John Jensenius ^{vice*}

^(F) Gordon Lichter ✓

^(T) Brian Stearns

Riva Krut

^(F) Linda Putnam ✓

^(T) John Stewart

*Mike Schwindt

^(F) *Sally Stockwell ✓

^(T) Don Stowell

Climate Action Subcommittee:

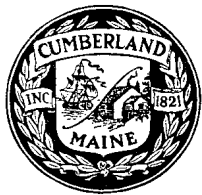
Sukie Curtis, Jennifer Grasso, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Ivy Frignoca, Mark Segrist

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 6, 2021

- December minutes were approved as written after the date change. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom.
- New members were welcomed: Matt Grondin – Commission; John Leavitt – Forest Subcommittee; Shaun Breton, John Stewart and Brian Stearns – Trails Subcommittee. Mark Segrist was appointed to the Climate Action Subcommittee. Rachael Becker McEntee, Steve Knowles, Peter Garsoe and Timothy Schneider are no longer members.
- Also in attendance were Sukie Curtis and Jesse Lamarre-Vincent of the Climate Action Committee, and Paul Larrivee – Cumberland’s forester.
- Town Council (Allison) – No update
- Commission (Mike)
 - Officers – unanimous consent: Mike Schwindt – chair; John Jensenius – vice chair; Ellen Hoffman – secretary.
 - Bill report (summarized from Bill L’s notes):
 - During the month of December 2020, 26 new building permits were issued for a variety of structures such as: pools, sheds, decks, renovations, additions, and solar installations. A total of 377 new building permits with 44 new single-family residences were issued in 2020.
 - OceanView Phase I (Tuttle Rd) under construction; 21 permits have been issued.

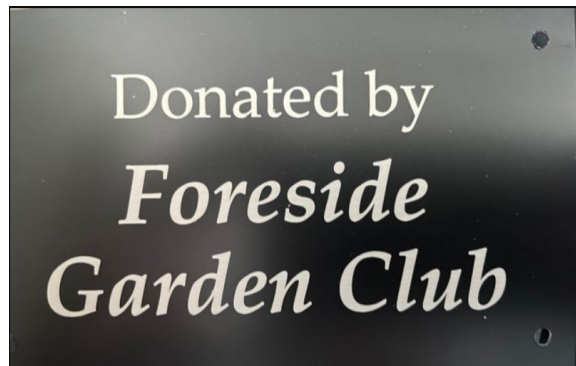


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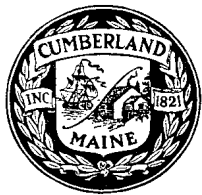
- Christmas Creek – under construction; 13 building permits issued. County records indicate all lots have been sold and closed.
- Orchard Rd - Cortland Court – three building permits issued
- Planning Board meeting scheduled for January 19th 2021:
 - Workshop for four lot subdivision off Blanchard Road Ext. This will be a conservation subdivision.
 - Storey Brothers gravel pit off Goose Pond Road (old Town gravel pit) – annual review
 - Several ordinance changes to streamline agriculture review process
 - OceanView Phase II (Greely Rd) – 52 new units plus one community building, final approval – public hearing. **LCC will need to make a recommendation for the trails as submitted or recommend an alternative.**
- Items to be addressed in future Planning Board meeting:
 - Mill Run (off Route 100 at Faraday Drive) phase #3 proposed 16,000 sq. ft. office building, 4,000 sq. ft. retail and 4,000 sq. ft. restaurant (Casco Systems facility)
 - Possible zoning change for four new 1-bedroom multiples units at Emerald Green.
- Sam asked Bill L, due to new home building activity, if the Town is aware of longer term effects – what Cumberland can expect in the future. Should we be adjusting plans accordingly? Bill explained that we have maintained an averaged 20-30 houses/year. Can we absorb this growth without changing the character of the Town?
- Mike mentioned that the Cumberland annual report contains a good write-up of what this commission has accomplished in the past year.
- Mike asked the various subcommittees to write up plans for the coming year. He also mentioned that the Greely Woods management plan is needed by next year.
- Town Forest/ Nature Trail/ BFG (Mike and Ellen) –
 - Mike installed plaques onto the two benches donated to Town by the Foreside Garden Club.



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- There has been no action on these items:
 - The Nature Trail - need to meet with Judy so we can finish laying out the Red Trail and get access to the nature trail database in a form we can manipulate and put online.
 - The need to pave the very top portion of the walkway that leads into the Green Trail from Drowne Rd. The sign that points to the trail leading down the steep embankment will also need to be moved to the paved entrance.
 - Snow fence is needed around the BFG.
- Recreational Trails Subcommittee - (John) - summarized from John's notes:
 - No chair was selected this meeting – waiting until new members of the subcommittee are sworn in.
 - The late December rain and warm temperatures left many trails wet and mucky. The colder temperatures of late will help firm things up.
 - Cumberland Crossing – trail not acceptable, the developers want to move to golf course. Need to look at our response to developer made in July.
 - Possible trail easement – Mayflower and Archer to connect to Lawn and Maple Street – expand Greely Woods..
 - Knights Pond – snowmobile trail going through possible vernal pool – signs. Old road surface – bowl in road, should route.
 - Discussed projects for 2021:
 - Numerous trail construction and maintenance projects in Rines Forest, Greely Woods and Knight's Pond (see maps below).



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- The Trails and Forestry Subcommittees will be looking at possible seasonal trail restrictions on Town-owned trails based on weather and conditions.
 - Online trail mapping – Ellen and John working to provide better online trail mapping. John, Ellen, Bill Shane met via Zoom with Judy Colby-George to Town trail website options. First order of business is mapping Town trails using the Town's Trimble GPS. John will do most of this; Ellen will help as needed.
 - The Trails and Forestry Subcommittees will be considering possible changing trail markings to create more consistent colors along routes through the Town.
 - Update Twin Brook map and signs – the Trails subcommittee is working with the Parks and Recreation department to update the kiosk and brochure maps for the Twin Brook Recreation Area. In addition, new trail entrance signs are also planned.
 - Proposed Farwell Avenue easement and trail work – the Trails subcommittee continues to work with owners of the property on Farwell Ave to obtain an easement to allow people to walk from Farwell Avenue to the MSAD51 property. Final details of the easement are currently being worked on.
 - Possible connecting trail to Spears Hill trail in Broad Cove – The Trails subcommittee has been contacted by the CCLT concerning a possible connecting trail to a future Spears Hill trail in Broad Cove. Work may begin this summer.
 - Review of new subdivision plans as needed.
- Forest and Natural Resources Subcommittee (from Denny's notes)
 - It was agreed by consensus that Denny will serve as the Forestry Subcommittee Chair for 2021 with Sally serving as Vice Chair.
 - Paul reported that he has completed the Knight's Pond timber inventory and will shortly finish up the Rines Forest addition. These inventories will provide the basis for timber management plans for both properties. Paul has contracted Ken Lausten (retired MFS Biometrician) to estimate the carbon stocking per acre as well as annual rate of carbon sequestration. This work is funded by the Project Canopy grant.
 - Paul noted that there is some ambiguity about responsibility for the section of the North Yarmouth holdings at the northeast corner of the pond in Knight's Pond. It is formally controlled by the Royal River Land Trust and may not fall under the purview of the North Yarmouth Town Manager. However, it will be included in Paul's plan.
 - The Town Council approved and adopted the updated Rines Forest General Management Plan on December 28, 2020. At the same meeting the Council agreed to work with Bill Shane in the near future to extend the conservation easement held by the Chebeague and Cumberland Land Trust to the Godsoe and Milliken additions.



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- No timber harvesting has been initiated yet by Jeff Storey in Twin Brook. Paul will check in with Jeff and Bill Shane for an update. The ground is still not fully frozen and should not be worked until that occurs, per the Guiding Principles.
- The Invasive Species Subcommittee plans some buckthorn control in the Town Forest this winter. Up to 10 acres might be mechanically brush hogged and then sprayed with herbicide next summer. This is an intensive treatment and we want to make sure we select the best site for moving forward. A disadvantage is that any natural regrowth under way is killed off. Mike will set up an opportunity for Forestry subcommittee to walk the proposed site.
- Given the small number of responses to the re-posting of last year's landowners meeting, Sally contacted Eliza Porter to redesign the prompts on the Town website to make the re-posting easier to navigate and to run it again in the Cumberland Crier during January and perhaps February.
- Sally questioned applying for a Project Canopy grant under the Planning and Education option, focusing more on education.
- Climate Action Subcommittee (Jenn and Riva)
 - A large portion of the meeting was taken up by Riva summarizing the draft of the Climate Action Plan. Jenn first summarized Denny's foresight and leadership in this effort and Riva did a PowerPoint presentation of the Climate Action Plan (below).
 - Comments after presentation:
 - Allison - Questioned on how to separate MSAD51 and Town. The Town has no control over the school system. It was mentioned that Jeff Porter (MSAD51 superintendent) has been kept in the loop. The CA Subcommittee should make a presentation to both entities. The state is going in the direction of electric school busses.
 - Bill Shane – Plan needs more detail; how much will this cost? Need support to move in this direction. The subcommittee should check in with Town every six months or so to report on progress. Also the Town staff and not the Town Planner should be responsible for determining the GHG of the Town. More education needed on what each step means.
 - Sally – should consider Town help with the community gardens. Land use planning and looking ahead. What is Town doing to reduce GHG in multi-use centers?
 - Maybe add to Phase 2 a density growth rate.
 - Any proposed edits to the draft report are due to Riva and Mike by 1/15/2021.



TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Town of Cumberland
LCC Meeting, Jan 6 2021

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

PHASE 1 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION



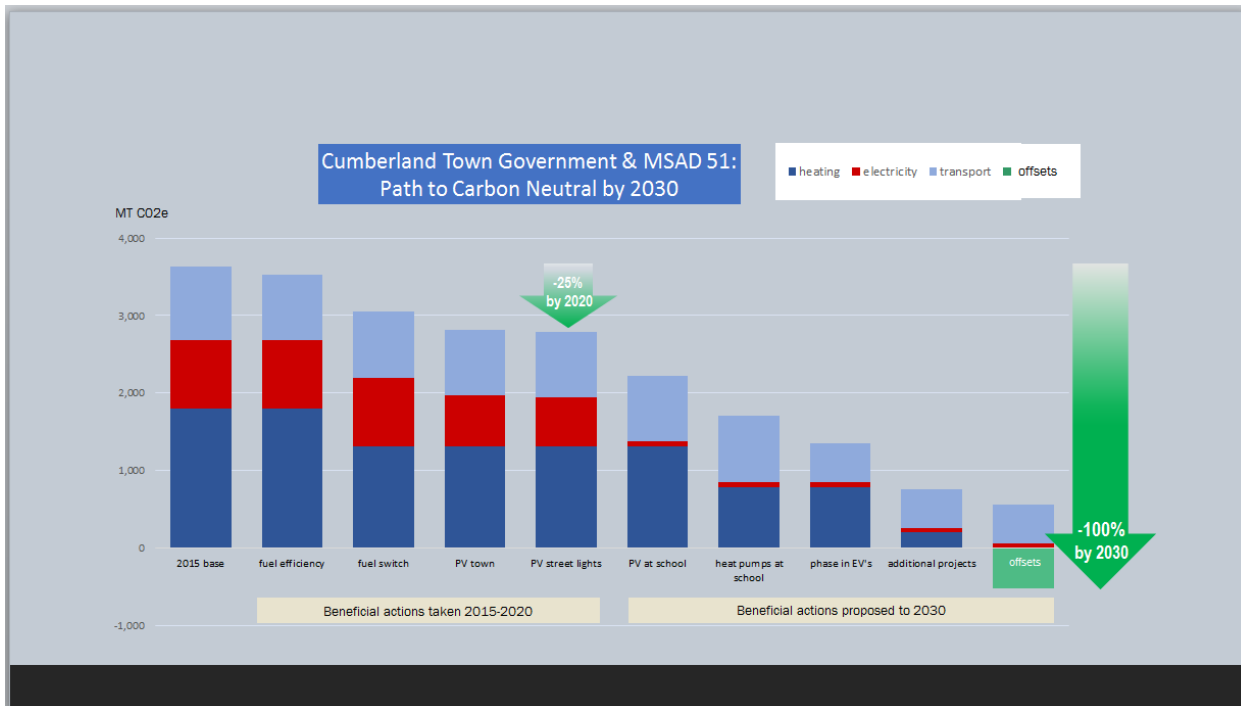
Cumberland's legacy of conservation and forest stewardship created a natural asset of 3,100 acres of open and forested land – about 22% of the Town's total land area, more than most towns in Maine.

This unique asset gives Cumberland the opportunity to offer a leadership model for municipal carbon sequestration and community resilience. This CAP proposes that the Town defines and promotes a brand of Sustainable Cumberland to residents and potential residents.

- A CARBON NEUTRAL TOWN AND SCHOOL SYSTEM
- PROMOTE A TOWN BRAND OF SUSTAINABLE CUMBERLAND



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Phase 1 Recommendations

Phase 1 to 2030: Actions for Our Town Government and MSAD 51

1. Develop a MSAD 51 solar farm.
2. Install industrial scale heat pumps to supplement natural gas heating and mitigate the GHG effects of natural gas heating.
3. Phase in automobiles, light duty vehicles and school buses as EV or plug in hybrid.
4. Set aside a 300-acre forest carbon reserve from Town-owned woodlands.
5. Design and build new public buildings to a zero-carbon standard.
6. Make available 5 - 10 acre parcels of Town-owned land to one or more market gardeners.
7. Develop tree planting program for public ways and easements
8. Engage the school district.
9. Delegate to the Town Planner the duty to analyze and report annually the GHG of the Town of Cumberland.



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Phase 2 Recommendations

1. A Carbon Neutral Community by 2050 (50% GHG emissions reduction by 2030).
2. A Town identity of Sustainable Cumberland.

- Invasive species – (Mike) – Need to start to plan on removing invasive plants from Town Forest. See if spraying at different times of the year makes any difference. Try cutting 10 acres and then spraying. Need to mark which plants we don't want cut. Come back at a later date and plant native trees. Could be educational. Work with the Forest subcommittee, get their input. Need to start grinding end of month.
- Farmland assessment (Mike) – Judy will create maps of different size plots. The subcommittee is meeting via Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:00pm.
- Next meeting February 3rd, 2021, 7:30.