

**Ocean Access Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2015
Cumberland Town Offices – Council Chambers
6:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present:

Denny Gallaudet, Chair, Maureen Connolly, Vice-Chair, C. Ingrid Parkin, Sandra Gorsuch-Plummer, Lew Incze, Stephen Thomas, Tom Gruber, Council Liaison, Liaison

Absent: Charles Adams, Jeff Perry, Penny Asherman, CCLT, George Turner, Council

Staff: Bill Shane, Town Manager, Pam Bosarge, Administrative Assistant

I. Approval of the February 11, 2015 Minutes:

Mr. Incze moved to approve the minutes of February 11, 2015.
Ms. Connolly seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous 6- 0 in favor

II. Discussion of Market Research

The Committee reviewed the Notes on Market Research of similar Ocean Facilities in the area.

Committee comments:

- It would be nice to visit some of these sites.
- Totman Cove Preserve in Phippsburg has restricted access to residents only and their guests. This is done by restricting parking. Dogs are permitted.
- Morse Mountain has limited parking, no bathroom facilities and prohibition of dog walking. The two mile walk also restricts usage.
- Discussion of developing a web site to define limitations to manage usage: Broad Cove Reserve suggests conservation. State limited small beach and state limitations for usage with disabilities
- Limited parking with six parking spaces on either side of Route 88.

Mr. Shane stated he met with the Police Department and they are opposed to parking along Route 88; it would be a violation of state laws which states parking where doors open into traffic should be discouraged. Mr. Shane will talk with Bateman Partners and inquire on the possibility of allowing parking of 8 – 10 vehicles on Spears Hill, and vehicles will be able to park on the grass next to the road. The Town is hoping to have resolution of the law suit by mid may.

- The Committee agreed by consensus that only Cumberland residents should have access to the limited parking for the first year.

III. Continued work on use matrix of Management Plan

Mr. Gallaudet stated the underlined language is new.

Mr. Incze suggested adding a number 9 to Broad Cove Reserve Stewardship Principles (page 4)

9. The Committee will cooperate with the Cumberland Coastal Waters Commission (CWC) on policies affecting use of the beach and intertidal areas, permitting and usage of the pier and float, and the prevention of erosion at the riparian boundary.

The Committee reviewed the list of Current Uses

- Current Uses – Shell fishing was added as was the list of prohibited uses:
 - Hunting
 - Dog walking
 - Open Fires
 - Fireworks
 - Use of ~~unregistered~~ authorized motor vehicles, snowmobiles, ATV's or motorbikes
 - Littering or trash disposal; all activities and users to remove all refuse carried in
 - Except for maintenance of approved trails, cutting/removal of trees, brush, vegetation or application of herbicides, pesticides, fungicides without Committee approval.
 - Construction or improvements without Committee approval
 - Defacement, injury, removal or destruction of fences, signs, gates or any other structure

Management Matrix

A. Current Uses – to add the following under Educational Activities

Current Use	Potential Natural Conflict	Potential Neighbor Conflict	Management Activities
Educational Activities	Over Collecting Minor habitat disturbance	Noise	Discourage collecting live materials Groups over 25 and/or arriving by bus require prior approval by the Cumberland Town Office.

Ms. Asherman stated the Land Trust hosts a horseshoe crab event; last year there were 75 – 100 people in attendance. They will give notice; the dates are June 13 & 14 – Saturday and Sunday. They will give notice to the town.

The Committee reviewed Prohibited Uses: stating that it would only take two dogs to leave feces on the beach to contaminate the clam flats and cause them to be closed.

The Committee discussed

Wildwood's leash and clean-up rules.

No open fires – the Reserve will close at dusk

No off road vehicles on trails

Motorhomes will be prohibited in the park.

Mr. Shane stated it appears we have a complete first draft to present to the Town Council in April. The Committee agreed with adopting the guiding principles and matrix.

The Committee will present the Broad Cove Reserve Management Plan to the Town Council on April 13th; there will be a workshop at 6:00 p.m. and be presented to the public at the 7:00 p.m. meeting.

IV. Other Business:

Forrest Bell proposal:

Mr. Shane reviewed the Forrest Bell proposal for field work on the property for spring and summer.

Task 1: Breeding bird survey and memo of results – several weeks between May and July 2015

Task 2: Non-native invasive plant survey and management plan

Task 3: Public presentation of results (Power Point)

Mr. Bell will be back before the Committee in June or July.

Pier Update:

Mr. Incze stated Barney Baker had inspected the pier with the following comments:

- It should be posted for limited loads – 16 people per span
- Railings don't meet public code for height and barrier (to prevent falling)
- A full assessment of the pier will be done this summer.
- Long-term comments are it will need to be replaced estimated cost \$300,000 to be ADA Compliant
- The ramp and float have significant storm damage
- The pier will need some bracing under the structure
- Initial cost of 15,000 to 20,000 to get the pier operational; in general it is in fair condition and typical for a pier its age; it was repaired in 2005.

Public Comments:

Mr. Geheb of 16 Wildwood Blvd asked about size of vehicles and would be motorhomes be prohibited? A web site is a great idea. Will there be bike racks; and asked about motorized boats.

Mr. Incze stated the Coastal Waters Commission is still working on these issues there will be no mooring access.

Mr. Shane will ask the Police Department for a definition of motorhomes and trailers which will not be allowed due to space.

Ms. Tarling of 84 Foreside Road voiced concern regarding off-site parking; buses staying on site and no dogs allowed previously they have allowed on the trail along Rt. 88

Mr. Shane stated they will attempt to have temporary parking on site; he understands the concern and will address this with Town Council in April. The first year the only buses will be Cumberland buses and they can drop off students and return. We will limit out of town buses, the turnaround will accommodate fire trucks so it will accommodate a school bus.

Mr. Gallaudet stated at the last meeting the committee discussed allowing dogs, the committee unanimously voted no. We all love dogs but in concern for pollution in Broad Cove it was decided to not allow dogs.

Mr. Gallaudet stated this is a great committee to work and a long time ago I took a training session with the Institute for Civic Leadership in Portland and the principles of the training were are if you give reasoning well intentioned people with adequate information they will make logical decisions, which is what the Committee has done. I think we have a great product to present to the Town Council.

Mr. Gruber agreed based on the work done, this committee is effective and doing a great job.

Mr. Shane reviewed next steps:

- Parking issues – impact to surrounding properties, signage, benches, and bike rack and road condition.

Ms. Connolly and Ms. Ingrid will continue to review state guidelines for ADA parking etc.

V. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Bosarge
Administrative Assistant