



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of April 6, 2015

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Nancy Lightbody, Steve DeCrosta, Aaron Svedlow, Sarah Boudreau, and Susan Gilpin

Review of Minutes

The March 2 minutes were approved as written.

A special get well and we miss you to Jerry Goodall was announced by all.

7:15 Subcommittee Discussions and Reports

- **LMAC (Aaron)**

The "Chase Property" on the river in West Falmouth is being proposed to be given as a gift to the Town of Falmouth. In order to become familiar and be updated, the subcommittee recently completed a familiarization walk of the property.

Aaron is working with LMAC to develop a plan for Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) this spring on town properties to evaluate the impact of timber harvesting and different types of habitat on species diversity. The Commission is also interested and has offered to help with the survey.

A disappointing attempt was made to take pictures of N.E. cottontail rabbit within the area: none found.

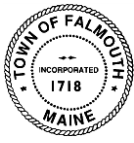
- **Stormwater (Susan)**

A "Coal Tar Bill" is coming before the Legislature to stop its commercial use due to its environmental impact. This product is unavailable to the public and the DOT does not use it as well. Susan will check to see if the town is using this product. In addition, she would like to explore the interest in taking a future vote to prevent any further use of this product within the town.

Apparently there are several groups within the town that have an interest in monitoring water quality. Susan plans to explore further any interest within the Falmouth schools to establish a monitoring program for water quality and pollution.

- **Invasive Species (Nancy-Sarah-Jerry)**

A meeting and presentation on invasive management was given at Town Hall on Feb 26th by Jeff Taylor of Vegetation Control Service based in Massachusetts and licensed in Maine. The invasive management company feels that Falmouth's roadside invasive issue is manageable and could be corrected. The herbicide



applications are very effective and safe. Sarah felt it was a very technical presentation and well done. A pilot program is being suggested for this year and will be presented to the Town Council on Apr 27th along with a suggestion to provide an ordinance preventing the use of invasives within sub-divisions.

- **Planning Board (Steve)**

Planning Board agenda along with detailed attachments was sent to all Commission members by Steve prior to this evening's meeting. The agenda included a number of items associated with Tidewater, Gray Rd, Foreside Rd, and Hardy Rd. Commission members are still reviewing all material. Susan asked if any open space would be affected in the Tidewater plan. Steve will follow up with Ethan Croce and report back. The Commission provided feedback to the Planning Board regarding the Hardy Rd plan and appreciated that its suggestions were considered.

- **Ad-Hoc Zoning (Steve)**

The Town staff is currently doing their first review of Module 1 and the revised version is targeted for distribution to the Ad-Hoc committee on May 14th in anticipation of a meeting May 21 with staff to formulate comments to KKC and then a second meeting on May 28th with KKC.

- **Vernal Pools (Aaron)**

In preparation for the spring vernal pool surveys, Aaron will provide a list of priority properties to walk. Commission members have volunteered to join the walk to learn, explore, and help mark vernal pools as outlined by Aaron.

- **Ad Hoc Route 100 Vision Committee (Sarah)**

There will be a public forum for the Route 100 Vision, on Wednesday at 7PM in the Town Council Chambers. An introduction to the following will be presented: vision plan, money to be saved, expensive fix, zoning, and the encouragement to develop around the Hannaford area. The consultant on the project has done traffic modeling through 2035; the route is very congested including the turnpike intersection and the Gray Road/Falmouth Road intersection. There may be 5-foot bike lanes on both sides of the road. Projects include utilities, open space, and storm-water categories, among others.

- **Liaison with the Comprehensive Plan (Nancy-Paul)**

Submitted comments have been made to CDC and LPAC. No response has been received to date as reported by Nancy.

Other Business/Other Ideas

Maine Land Conservation Conference for 2015 is scheduled for Friday Apr 24th at the Brunswick Hotel and Tavern, Brunswick, ME and on Apr 25th at the Mt. Ararat Middle School & Orion Performing Arts Center in Topsham, ME.

9:00 Adjourned



Next meeting is Monday, May 4, at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Steve DeCrosta