



Falmouth Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes November 2, 2015

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Nancy Lightbody, Jerry Goodall, Steve DeCrosta, Aaron Svedlow, Paul Burlin

Review of Minutes

Minutes from October meeting were approved unanimously.

Polls

Polls attendance was discussed, FCC has a table and a presence, but it will be staffed sporadically throughout the day.

7:15 Subcommittee Discussions and Reports

- **LMAC(Aaron)**

Aaron summarized the October 2015 LMAC meeting, highlighting the management of Blackstrap trail system and mountain bike use, as well as the dog regulation changes proposed by LMAC. The full LMAC October meeting minutes are available at <http://www.falmouthme.org/land-management-acquisitions-committee>.

- **Stormwater**

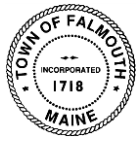
No report- Susan absent.

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

Nancy recapped that the spraying in West Falmouth went very well. Few people did not want to participate, 12 families elected to pay for additional spraying, and the project was under budget. Bob Shafto took some pre- and post-photos, and some photos will be taken in the spring after leaf out. A number of town properties were treated as well. Next year the plan may include retreating some areas and to work on the middle part of Falmouth, up to Middle Road. Jerry and Bob went out to map these location of invasive in this area. The total cost of the 2015 spraying was approximately \$12,000, and additional \$5,000 was budgeted for the town properties treated. The exact values are available in the full treatment report.

Steve shared an anecdote about knotweed blocking a culvert from draining; he brought this to the attention of public works. Steve also mentioned that a project on his property was somewhat successful in mechanically removing knotweed from his property. Steve is recommending that the town consider expediting treatment of “problem” areas. Bob and Jerry plan to map some of these “problem” areas for possible treatment next year.

Steve brought up the problem with bringing invasive plant brush to the town transfer station; there is no separate “invasives” pile at the town transfer station.



Now that the pilot project was a success, the sub-committee is working to make changes to the ordinances; this may include updating the list of plants prohibited from use in subdivision landscaping, and a second part would be to require or recommend invasive-free fill, or an invasive management plan. This concept has been recommended by the town planner. Monitoring has also been discussed, but who would do the monitoring?

- **Planning Board(Steve)**

There is a meeting tomorrow on November 3, 2015. The FCC presented the Planning Board with comments on the Harriman Subdivision. These comments were substantive and positive. In preparation for the November 3 meeting, Steve distributed the agenda for the Planning Board and asked if there were any items the FCC might be concerned with. Steve has an agreement with Ethan Croce, where if there is something on the agenda that FCC should review, then Ethan will send it to Steve for FCC review; this system worked with the Harriman Subdivision review.

There may be an issue at tomorrow's meeting regarding the open space areas at Ocean View by the former Lunt School, but the FCC does not intend to attend the planning board meeting or comment on this issue. Nancy intends to attend the Planning Board meeting; the Planning Board has our comments on the Harriman Subdivision in their pre-meeting package.

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

At the last few meetings the committee has been reviewing the definitions in the town ordinance and zoning laws to assure consistency among the definitions. The Ad-Hoc Zoning Committee has finished review of Module 1, and Module 2 is beginning. There are some potential budget issues with the consultants doing the website.

- **Vernal Pools(Aaron)**

No update

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

No report – Sarah absent

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

Jerry and Nancy met with Nathan and Amanda regarding the plans for FCC to achieve goals set by the Council pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan, Nathan and Amanda had some comments, particularly on when we submit our budget. Aaron will have reviewed existing wetlands plan by the December 2015 meeting (as in CP 68).

Susan attended a Casco Bay water quality conference and will update the FCC during the December meeting. This dovetails with CP 51.



Other Business/Other Ideas

Paul distributed flyers to advertise the FCC's website for educational purposes and to serve as an educational tool for the citizens of Falmouth. Next step would be some short YouTube type educational videos to be recorded, perhaps in the spring. A High School student has volunteered to help with doing a video; first video to be with Bob Shafto to discuss conservation themes in general. Need to generate some additional ideas for videos that address topics presented on our website. Mike McDade would need to facilitate posting/post the videos. 156 people subscribe to the website.

The Route 1 North committee is convening and they are looking for members – Paul will tentatively agree to be part of the committee.

8:15 Adjourned

Next meeting is Monday, Dec 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Aaron Svedlow