



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of October 2, 2017

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Sarah Boudreau, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Karen Jacobsen, Nancy Lightbody, Sue Shane

Review of Minutes: Minutes of the September 6, 2017, meeting were unanimously approved.

Town Council Work Plan Items:

- We reviewed the 2017-2018 Council Work Plan Items involving the Conservation Commission. The pesticide application ordinance is on hold now while the town looks for a scientist to serve as a pesticide consultant. Paul Schlein was suggested. Because of her expertise in drafting ordinances, Amanda remains our resource person. We agreed it might be good for the town to send a lawn care professional from Public Works or Parks and Community Programs to learn about sustainable turf management
- No action on wetlands and vernal pools is required from us right now. The next steps to strengthen wetland protections are with the Community Development Committee.
- Tree City USA designation lies with Jay Reynolds and Public Works. We support this and especially noted that it would be useful for the town to have a tree warden now that Bob Shafto's retirement is imminent.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Planning Board** (Nancy/Steve)
The public comment on housing density as applied to Tuscan Way is going on downstairs in the council chambers right now. Comments from the Conservation Commission were sent to the Planning Board.
- **LMAC** (Karen)
Karen reported that the Planning Board has asked LMAC to weigh in on the management of open spaces around Riverside Cottages. Also, the developer of Tuscan Way has agreed to offer public access to a walking trail. Also, it is time to update the town's forest management plan.
- **Water Quality/Erosion** (Susan)



Susan, Nancy, and Jamie Mason from Public Works attended a workshop on eroding banks by the Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District. Mackworth Island was a case study.

- **Wetlands/Vernal Pools** (Nancy)
In the hands of CDC at this point (see above).
- **Invasive Species** (Nancy/Sarah/Jerry)
Sarah, Jerry, and Nancy reported that the treatment last week went smoothly. With the support of landowners, 167 properties were selectively treated. They will meet next week to discuss how to proceed in the future because Bob Shafto and Jeff Taylor (our professional applicator) are both retiring. As it comes up, Nancy will send us more info from the Invasive Species Network.
- **LPAC: Greening of Falmouth 2.0** (Sarah)
Sarah reported that LPAC will be sending a survey to residents soon and urged us all to respond.

Other Business/Other Ideas

- Jerry is interested in preserving farmland in Falmouth for the future. The committee encouraged him to investigate next steps. There is a map of agricultural land in Falmouth hanging on the wall of the meeting room. Sarah noted that the Maine Farmland Trust works on this.
- The CCSWCD is awarding Falmouth a prize for being a conservation steward, including Jay Reynolds, Ethan Croce, the Falmouth Land Trust, and the Conservation Commission. Nathan Poore will receive the award on behalf of everyone.
- **Election Day** is November 7: In addition to having information at the polls about invasive terrestrial plants, we will put together a display on ticks. Susan will get information from the Board of Pesticides Control, Karen will get materials from the Cooperative Extension Service, and Sue will get information from a Scarborough physician who has been active in the issue. Our schedule is as follows: 7 to 8 a.m.: Nancy; 8 to 10 a.m.: Jerry; 2:30 to 4 p.m.: Sue. 4 to 6 p.m.: Susan; 6 to 8 p.m.: Nancy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting is November 6, 2017. (Sarah will take the minutes.)

Submitted by Susan Gilpin.