

# Land Management & Acquisition Committee

## November 8, 2016 Minutes

Present: Ed Braley, Lucky D'Ascanio, Caleb Hemphill, Dave Gagnon, Bob Shafto, Fred Masciangelo, Ted Asherman, Nathan Poore, Jenny Grimm

Item #1: On a motion by Dave and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed, the October minutes were unanimously approved.

### Item #2: Pets on Public Lands

Our recommendations regarding new ordinances governing pets on town lands will be presented to the Council at their Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. This is the first step in a multi-step process that will likely take several months to unfold should the Council vote to pursue it. Our recommendations are three fold:

- Require pets to be leashed within 300 ft. of all trailheads;
- Require pets to be leashed from 1 Apr – 30 Sep in No. Falmouth & Hadlock Community Forests and Suckfish Brook Conservation Area.
- Prohibit pets at all times at River Point Conservation Area and from 1 Dec to 31 Mar in Woods Road Community Forest given its state deer wintering area status.

Ted will present to the Council, with a set of slides adapted from the June public forum. Lucky will present if Ted is unable to attend.

Some discussion ensued about how the status of future acquisition properties will be handled. Ordinance language will be required covering each property to give the town the power to enforce the regulation, but perhaps an emergency clause would give LMAC temporary authority to issue a regulation until the Council could consider permanent language.

### Item #3: Motorized Bikes

The first generation of motorized mountain bikes are coming on the market and in time we are likely to see them on our trails. Current ordinances prohibit motorized vehicles on town property and these machines would be covered under that prohibition. Fred will get the word out through various mountain biking networks that we do not allow them on town land. Existing trailhead signs might have wording added to that effect as well.

We need to be sure emergency and maintenance motorized vehicles are exempt from this provision.

### Item #4: Hunting

The suggestion that we convene an informal group of hunters to give us feedback on how well the town serves their recreational needs was tabled until a Spring meeting.

#### Item #5: Presumpscot Trail

Portland Trails would like partner with us to formally construct a trail along the north shore of the Presumpscot River from the Blackstrap boat launch to River Point. This would become part of the 35-mile long Sebago-to-the-Sea (S2S) Trail. It would be on private, not town land, but we would contribute both labor and money toward the project. This idea was unanimously endorsed by the Committee.

#### Item #6: Executive Session

On a motion by Fred and a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Dave, it was moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to the Laws of Maine to discuss and consider the acquisition of real estate rights, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (C).

#### Item #7: Updates

- We won't see our LMF money for at least 4-5 months, but we will see it eventually.
- Trail names signs have been created for trails in No. Falmouth, Hadlock, Blackstrap, Woods Road, Suckfish Brook, River Point and the East Branch trail systems. They will go up in January.
- The Greening of Falmouth 2.0 process starts Thursday night.
- CMP will grant permission for the logger to cross their Blackstrap power line to access the area we couldn't get to last winter. Harvesting will begin in January.
- Final approval of the McDermott property mitigation grant should happen on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, setting that acquisition in motion.

Next meeting dates:

December 6<sup>th</sup> (if needed pending the Council's action on the pet regs)

January 10<sup>th</sup>

February 7<sup>th</sup>

March 14<sup>th</sup>

April 11<sup>th</sup>

May 10<sup>th</sup>

Future meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m.