



## LMAC (Land Management and Acquisitions Committee)

Members Present: Ted Asherman, Chair; Audrey Farber, David Gagnon; and Chris Kittredge  
Liaison Present: Jennifer Grimm, FLT Executive Director; Michael Vance, FLT President and Karen Jacobsen, Conservation Commission  
Staff Present: Amanda Stearns, Open Space Manager and Lucky D'Ascanio, Parks and Community Programs Director  
Councilors Present: Caleb Hemphill, Chair

### Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 9, 2018

1. **Call to Order** – Chair Ted Asherman called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 am.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of December 12, 2017 were approved unanimously.
3. **Adam Property** – After some discussion about how to be most efficient and effective regarding a site visit with snow cover and Chris offering to develop resource maps for the parcel, it was decided to place this item on the February 13 agenda and review the property at that time. It will be determined at the next meeting whether a site visit will occur and when.
4. **Nature Preserve** – Amanda brought the committee up to date on correspondence from the abutting land owner that encroached on the property. All present strongly recommended that the Town take a strong position regarding mitigation of the encroachment and that the boundary be delineated in a permanent manner that will protect the property from further encroachment. The FLT, as easement holder, will forward a letter to the Town indicating the violation of the easement. Amanda will notify the Town Manager of the recommended direction.
5. **NFCF Forestry Operation** – Amanda reviewed the handouts which include the extent of the harvesting area, the agreed upon harvesting plan and a summary of timber and related revenue from the site. The main focus of the harvest was to create an environment that will normalize the forest as it had been single species cut in the past. This will promote a successional forest that is more natural and also create improved wildlife habitat. The harvesting was not completed due to the storm and will continue next dry season as winter is not optimal for white pine seedlings or for access.

Amanda also mentioned that the harvest at Blackstrap Preserve will hopefully recommence next year as well. It was started about three years ago and conditions have not been favorable to continue. Paul Larrivee is trying to negotiate more favorable access with CMP.

Paul Larrivee, our new Town Forester, has offered to come in and meet with the committee and Amanda tentatively scheduled him for the February 13 meeting. It was agreed that he will be asked to join the committee at 9:15 for 45 minutes to an hour. Councilors will also be invited to attend. A review of forestry operations will also be part of a springtime update with the Council on the overall work of LMAC over the past year.

6. **Trail Licenses Needed** – As one of the high priority goals for 2018, Amanda inquired if anyone knows of trail segments that are not secured to let her know. In the meantime, she will ask Bob if there is a list available.
7. **Trail Sustainability Policy** – As one of the high priority goals for 2018, Amanda suggested that we keep this on the agenda. With the snow pack it is difficult to review trail conditions but if anyone is aware of certain trail segments that are in need of improvement please forward this information to Amanda. In the meantime, she will check in with Bob to see if there is any current list. Amanda noted that the Trust is working with the Town IT person Jen Phinney to build a data structure to collect trail and structure information.
8. **Open Space Manager Report**
  - a. Autumn Way – Amanda communicated that the owner of the parcel where Autumn Way is located has become more reluctant to consider an easement. Amanda will continue a dialogue with her.
  - b. Forestry Management Plan Amendment for NFCF – The Forestry Management Plan should be amended to include the McLean parcel. Amanda will follow up with Paul Larrivee on this.
  - c. The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program and Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund announced two grant opportunities that require submittal by February 1. It was agreed that the turnaround is too tight to submit anything without a project ready to go.
  - d. Greening of Falmouth update – LPAC+ is beginning to work on action steps for the identified goals. Ted, Amanda, Michael and Caleb volunteered to participate in this work.
9. **Other business** - The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 13.
10. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15.

## 2018 LMAC Goals

1. High - Secure legal rights for all trails now located on private land, including licenses, easements, and outright ownership.
2. High - Trail Sustainability Policy
3. High - Assist Town Forester with application for Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year.
4. Medium High - Continue outreach efforts with landowners with properties of significant open space value. Amanda to continue keeping in touch with key landowners.
5. Medium High - Continue participation in the development of version 2.0 of *The Greening of Falmouth*;
6. Medium - Reach out to establish and/or strengthen relationships various stakeholder / user groups, including snowmobilers, hunters, trail runners, mt. bikers, etc.
7. Medium - Formalize a property stewardship program. It was agreed that this is a goal that will benefit from coordination with FLT.
8. Medium - Create a data base documenting all property trails, structures, or other improvements, including bridges, benches, kiosks, etc. This project will benefit from coordination with FLT
9. Medium Low - Be proactive in reaching out to neighboring towns and land trusts to stimulate regional conservation and trail building efforts;
10. Medium Low - Pursue outreach to the top five “jewel property” owners in hopes of securing easements on these properties;
11. Low - Develop a plan for improving the safety of the trail crossing at the East Branch crossing area on Falmouth Road; and
12. Low - Get National Historic Site designation for River Point