



LMAC  
(Land Management and Acquisitions Committee)

**Meeting Notes (approved)**  
Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Members Present: Fred Farber; David Gagnon; Chris Kittredge and Casey Webster  
Members Absent: John Adelman  
Ex-officio: Jennifer Grimm, FLT Executive Director  
Liaisons: Michael Vance, FLT President; Caleb Hemphill, Town Councilor and Karen Jacobsen, Conservation Commission  
Council Liaison: Ted Asherman, Town Council  
Staff: Amanda Stearns, Open Space Manager

1. Call to Order - Dave called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.
2. Approval of Minutes - With a motion by Casey and a second by Fred, the minutes of November 13, 2018 were approved as written.
3. Executive Session - (1 M.R.S. 405 6.C) no executive session was held
4. Open Space Plan January workshop - The committee had a lengthy discussion around how to design this process. The result of the discussion was that the January 18 workshop would be used to design the process and work on the fundamental elements of the implementation strategy. Three key components to the strategy will be the following and they are listed in priority order to be addressed.
  - Management and budget
  - Acquisitions
  - Education and communication

Other key points made during the discussion were:

- Amanda will work on dissecting the listed action items in the plan and place components in each of these categories. If elements fall in multiple categories it will be noted. It was noted that budget requests need to prioritize as the Council has begun the process.
- Background notes will be important to discuss how components of the plan are being addressed at the present time.
- Committee members agreed to read the Open Space Plan and be prepared at the meeting to work.
- Amanda will send out ranking/prioritization materials ahead of the meeting.

- Having a facilitator is desired for the following meeting to help the committee keep focused and complete the implementation strategy.
  - The final strategy by LMAC would be presented back to the Council for approval.
  - Other goals of the committee need to be included as the strategy will be blended into the Council Work Plan.
  - Other committees that have participated in some similar work should be invited to attend and comment. This would include the Conservation Commission.
  - The acquisition evaluation/rating sheets are a high priority as they set the stage for any new acquisitions. It is recognized that this could be a lengthy discussion.
5. Trail Maintenance and Development Fund – Amanda updated the committee on the fund. Staff (Nathan, Lucky and Amanda) are meeting next week to discuss how the fund will be administered and then Amanda will update the committee in January. It is anticipated right now that a staff + LMAC members committee will be formed to review and approve use of the funds. Projects and expenditures need to be included for the FY19-20 budget.
  6. Volunteer Stewardship Program – Amanda presented the August 2018 handout and suggested that this be rolled into the implementation strategy under Management and Budget. Key elements discussed are roles of paid vs. volunteer staff, chainsaw certification [Note: The trust will be sponsoring a certification workshop this spring. Members will be kept apprised of that workshop.], management and recruiting of volunteers, meaningful use of volunteers.
  7. Invasives Management Plan – Amanda presented copies of the staff plan and noted that the intent of the plan was to consolidate and document the current policies and practices of the town and lay out a framework for moving forward. Kimberly Darling, Energy and Sustainability Coordinator, is tasked with the management of this work. The first step is having internal staff meet that are involved in the plan and then a second meeting will include the PACPAC, LMAC and Conservation Commission which provide oversight for properties and programs. Ted noted that it was his hope that we not lose momentum with all the work that has been accomplished in the last ten years. Amanda responded that staff are sensitive to this and are working through the challenges of addressing “boots on the ground” with Administration.
  8. Open Space Manager’s Report – Amanda updated the committee on several negotiations for trail connections and regional efforts, including possible land acquisitions in Windham, Westbrook, and Cumberland, all which directly or indirectly would expand the open space and trail systems in Falmouth. The MOU with the SnoVoyagers is in place and Caleb reported that they had completed the trimming on the Pyle lot in Hadlock off Winn Road. The work on the “White Trail” in Blackstrap from the river to the outlook is on hold for the winter. MTB LLC completed about 1,000 feet of trail so far. This is the first project under the Trail Maintenance and Development Fund.
  9. Other business – The committee will hold two meetings in January, the regular meeting on Tuesday, January 8 at 8:30am and the open space plan implementation strategy workshop on Friday, January 18 at Mason-Motz, 9:00 am
  10. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 am.