



TOWN OF FALMOUTH RESOLUTION
Robert G. Shafto, Open Space Ombudsman

- WHEREAS,** Robert G. “Bob” Shafto has been a leader in open space acquisition and management in Falmouth for many years, both as a volunteer and as the Town’s Open Space Ombudsman and
- WHEREAS,** as a volunteer, Bob led the effort to develop and adopt the 2006 *Greening of Falmouth* plan, and guided stakeholders and the community to clearly understand the Plan’s vision: *“Falmouth will continue to be recognized as a place defined by its rural character and open space resources – open fields and woodlots, scenic vistas, scenic road corridors, with an abundance of wildlife and flora. People in all parts of Falmouth, in both established neighborhoods and newer subdivisions, will have convenient access to open space.”*; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2007, voters showed their support for this vision by approving a referendum to spend up to \$5 million on open space acquisition; and
- WHEREAS,** under Bob’s leadership and guidance as the Open Space Ombudsman, the Town has acquired more than 1,000 acres of open space property for approximately \$6 million, spending less than \$2 million of the voter approved \$5 million budget in the process; and
- WHEREAS,** the Town has received almost \$4 million from other sources including but not limited to: grants, sales, and other donations, thanks to Bob’s work to identify and secure alternative funding sources; and
- WHEREAS,** as part of his work with the Falmouth Conservation Corps, a group tasked with management of the town’s increasing open space inventory, Bob oversaw the construction of nearly 50 miles of trails in the Town’s open space areas; and
- WHEREAS,** Bob’s attention to the special characteristics and significance of the Riverpoint property resulted in the creation of the first kiosk, extensive work to eradicate invasive species, bridge reconstruction, habitat development with early successional woodland and cottontail habitat, and cooperation with other entities such as the Center of Biodiversity; and
- WHEREAS,** Bob is a recognized leader and innovator in Falmouth and throughout the State of Maine for his work with invasive species eradication, conservation land planning, trail development, and as past president of the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH ASSEMBLED THIS 13th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2017, THAT:

The Town Council proclaims its appreciation for Robert G. “Bob” Shafto’s work in conservation and open space planning and management and recognizes that his work will forever impact the Town’s character and culture as a unique and lasting gift to the town.

Attest: _____
Ellen Planer, Town Clerk

Date: _____