



Town of Brunswick, Maine
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

85 UNION STREET
BRUNSWICK, ME 04011

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- AGENDA -

Thursday, January 7, 2021, 4:30

TOWN HALL

VIA ZOOM

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 879 8216 7418

Passcode: 773517

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes** - None to review
- 3. Conservation Commission Activities**
 - a) Annual Goals
 - b) 2021 Officers (Chair & Vice Chair)
 - c) Council discussion of West side parcel on 1/4
 - c) Mere Brook Watershed - Dec. Meeting; Upcoming TAC; Culvert Mapping
 - e) Landing stormwater/Picnic Pond working group
 - f) Sawtooth Update - to TF and Maine Natural Areas Program
 - g) 2020 Easements (JW)
 - h) CC outdoor work 2021 — Fitzgerald, Sawtooth, Easements,
- 4. Coordination and Communication**
 - a) Your Land
 - b) On Your Minds
- 5. Other Business**
 - a) Staff Report
 - b) Next Meeting
- 6. Adjourn**

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Brunswick Conservation Commission is to serve the Brunswick community by advocating for conservation values and stewarding our ecologically rich natural communities and open spaces.

OBJECTIVES

The Conservation Commission serves the community of Brunswick by promoting land conservation to benefit Brunswick residents and visitors; fostering the conservation of open space, habitat and ecological values; advocating for the appropriate protection, development, or use of open spaces in town; providing educational outreach to residents on local and regional conservation and ecological issues; coordinating with town departments, committees, and local organizations in support of conservation efforts; and overseeing the management of town-owned conservation lands and interests.

Primary Priorities for 2020:

1. Work on adoption of the draft Conservation Commission ordinance by Town Council.
2. Continue to assist in the conservation management, planning, and stewardship of Brunswick Landing Conveyance Properties, in particular the Western “Sawtooth” Parcel.
3. Continue to be involved in the conservation management activities for Captain Fitzgerald Park, including planning next steps for conservation management.
4. Continue to work on targeted invasive species efforts (current efforts: Fitzgerald Park, Furbish Preserve, Western Sawtooth), and on updating town policy as needed for appropriate invasive species treatments. Removal of Bittersweet from Western Sawtooth and closer look at if the knotweed in Fitzgerald meets the standards for herbicide usage. Learn more about what the Recreation Department plans to do with Fitzgerald property and to learn more about the best management practices for the use of herbicides.
5. Identify management and stewardship needs and priorities for other town-owned conservation properties, using the Conservation Commission’s Inventory for guidance. Regular review of town-owned properties that are not tied to the Recreation Department or other entity.
6. Develop an understanding of and advocacy for Mere Brook and its watershed as planning proceeds and work begins to raise its quality from that of an “urban-impaired” brook. Such work includes appropriate coordination and communication with other interested groups.

Secondary Priorities

1. Follow up with the Council and Town Manager on short-term actions and priorities. Prepare and present the Annual Report.
2. Public Education project with Rivers and Coastal Waters and outreach opportunities. More information to the public regarding the value of open space.
3. Communications with other Brunswick Commissions, and affiliate conservation entities such as BTLT.
4. Host a 2020 field day to promote Conservation Commission efforts and inform residents about specific conservation properties.