Falmouth Conservation Commission

Minutes of January 3, 2011

Meeting Convened at 7:00PM

Members Present: Mel Dickenson, Jerry Goodall, Nancy Lightbody, Eileen Beasley,

Colin Jones

Members Absent: Lori Johnson, Frank Ruch, Art Frederiksen Guests Present: Nathan Poore, Bob Shafto, Susan Gilpin

Minutes approved

Minutes approved unanimously from last meeting.

Presentation/Discussion:

Mel Dickenson presented the invasive species action plan to Nathan Poore, Falmouth Town Manager. Mel discussed the threats that are posed by invasive species. The action plan represents a comprehensive approach and involves a number of different stakeholders working together to controls invasive species in Falmouth. There is broad based support for this initiative from local nurseries, arborists, and committee members.

Nathan asked whether invasive species can be disposed of at the town compost pile. In addition, since the invasive action plan calls for the limited use of herbicides in certain circumstances, Nathan wanted additional information from the FCC about the half life of herbicides that will be part of the action plan.

Bob Shafto noted that he was unaware of any other town in Maine implementing such a comprehensive plan to deal with invasive species on both public and private land. He thought this plan may serve as pilot for other communities who are interested in this area.

Mel reminded Nathan that he submitted a budget request to the town in order to support the invasive species initiative.

Storm Water:

Mel Dickenson updated the committee on a Maine Department of Environmental Protection report that has identified 29 streams and rivers that are determined to be environmentally compromised. Mel also conducted initial research on storm water runoff in the Route 1 corridor in Falmouth. Mel would like the FCC to collect more data using the GIS website.

<u>Invasive Species</u>: See above

<u>Planning Board</u>: Colin informed the committee that no plans submitted in the last month has any conservation resource issues. .

<u>Open Space</u>: Town received CMF grant to purchase 100 acres of natural peat bog. Subcommittee also working with Parks and Recreation to organize an upcoming event entitled a "day in the forest" to take place in Hadlock forest.

Action Items:

Invasive Species sub-committee is to meet again before the next monthly FCC meeting to come up with next steps needed to implement invasive species action plan. Sub-committee will also identify published resources that are available on invasives to leverage for the action plan.

Meeting adjourned at approx. 8:15 Submitted by Colin Jones