

**Town of Falmouth – Town Council
Resolution to Protect River Point
January 26, 2009**

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Town of Falmouth formally adopted an ambitious open space plan, *The Greening of Falmouth*, that created a roadmap for ensuring the preservation of high value natural areas in our community for benefit of current and future generations of Falmouth residents; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Town Council created the Open Space Implementation Sub-Committee of the Conservation Commission to oversee the implementation of *The Greening of Falmouth* and funded the creation of a half-time contract position to staff that effort; and

WHEREAS, *The Greening of Falmouth* identified the River Point property as a high priority for protection as conservation land; and

WHEREAS, in November 2007 voters in Falmouth demonstrated their commitment to open space preservation by authorized \$5 million in open space acquisition spending over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, the River Point property has been identified as having extra-ordinary scenic, historic, educational, recreational, agricultural and wildlife habitat value; and

WHEREAS, Conservation Commission, Open Space Implementation Sub-Committee, River Point Advisory Group and Falmouth Trails Advisory Committee have all recommended that River Point be permanently protected; and

WHEREAS, the River Point property is already owned by the town and thus can be preserved at no additional cost to taxpayers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED, by the Falmouth Town Council in Town Council assembled, that the River Point parcel be formally designated as conservation land.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED THAT, the Open Space Implementation Sub-Committee and the Falmouth Conservation Corps are authorized to develop trails (including appurtenant structures), signage, maps, and educational displays that will enhance public enjoyment and promote understanding of the human and natural history of the property.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED THAT, the Open Space Implementation Sub-Committee and the Falmouth Conservation Corps are authorized to manage the property for the benefit of its wildlife populations, including mowing fields, placing nest boxes, regenerating early successional stage habitat, and removing invasive species.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED THAT, the Open Space Implementation Sub-Committee return to the Council for approval for other proposed uses or improvements to the property, such as replacing the current railroad overpass, restoring, demolishing or constructing new buildings or restoring agricultural activity to the property.

Adopted by the Falmouth Town Council on **January 26, 2009**, at its regular meeting.

Town Clerk: _____ Dated: _____