



## Land for Maine's Future Program

Minutes of the Meeting

November 07, 2017

32 Blossom Lane, Marquardt Building, Room 118  
Augusta, Maine

### **Board Members Present:**

Don Kleiner, Robert Meyers, Lisa Turner, Fred Bucklin, Harry Ricker, Brad Moll, Commissioner Patrick Keliher, Commissioner Chandler Woodcock and Commissioner Walter Whitcomb

### **Staff Members Present:**

Sarah Demers, Tom Miragliuolo, R. Collin Therrien, and Tammara Roberts

### **Others:**

Kevin Miller, Portland Press Herald  
Carol Dennison, Town of Lubec, Select Board  
Julie Keene, Town of Lubec, Safe Harbor Commission Chair  
Gordon Collins, Kennebunk Land Trust  
Tom W., Kennebunk Land Trust  
George Harrington, Friends Hope Cemetery and Woods  
Kerry Hegarty, Jackman  
George Fields, Blue Hill Heritage Trust  
Ann Fielder, Midcoast Conservancy  
Jerry Bley, Creative Conservation, LLC.  
Hans Carlson, Blue Hill Heritage Trust  
Brian Bronson, Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Forestry, Off Road Vehicle  
Lana LaPlant-Ellis, Department of Agriculture, Conservation, Forestry, Off Road Vehicle  
Tim Smith, Great Works Regional Land Trust  
Keith Fletcher, Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Wells Conservation Commission  
Iris Roberts, Bethel Community Forest  
Tim Roberts, Bethel Community Forest

Susan Sharon, Maine Public Radio  
Aaron Dority, Frenchman Bay Conservancy  
Ian Stewart, Coast Mountain Land Trust  
Thom Perkins, Loon Echo Land Trust  
Stephanie Gilbert, DACF-ARD  
Chris Franklin, Maine Farmland Trust  
Glenn Saller, Bethel  
Judy East, Washington County Council of Governments  
Nat Tupper, Town of Yarmouth  
Annette Naegel, George's River Land Trust  
Tom Abello, The Nature Conservancy  
Bethany Atkins, MDIFW  
Patrick Watson, Maine Coast Heritage Trust  
Jeff Romano, Maine Coast Heritage Trust  
Liz Petruska, DACF, BPL  
Anne Carney, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust  
Lee Dassler, Western Foothills Land Trust  
Cindy Krum, Cape Elizabeth Land Trust  
Betsy Bullard, Brigeen Farms, Inc.  
Robert Marvinney, DACF  
Steve Walker, Maine Coast Heritage Trust  
Charlie Baeder, Belgrade Regional Conservation Alliance

- Welcome and Introductions** - Commissioner Patrick Keliher, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., welcomed everyone and asked for introductions from the Board. To save time, the Chair asked that the audience introduce themselves when they give their presentation.
- Minutes** –  
**Motion:** A motion was made by Commission Whitcomb and seconded by Don Kleiner to accept without objections the minutes of the August 22, 2017 meeting. Board vote was unanimous.
- Bond Balances -LMF Director**

Land for Maine's Future Program					
Bond Fund Balances					
September 30, 2017					
			Authorized	Bonds To	
Public Law Reference	Account Number	Designated Purpose of Funds	Bond Issue	Be Sold	Cash Balance
		Conservation & Recreation; Farmland			
2009, Chapter 645, Sec. J	018-04A-082107	Preservation	6,500,000	0	4,141,654
2009, Chapter 645, Sec. J	018-04A-082108	Farmland Preservation	1,000,000	0	386,434
2009, Chapter 645, Sec. J	018-04A-082109	Working Waterfront	1,750,000	0	276,857
<i>Sub-total Public Law 2009, Chapter 645, sec. J</i>			<i>\$9,250,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$4,804,945</i>
		Conservation & Recreation; Farmland			
2011, Chapter 696	Not Assigned	Preservation; Working Waterfront	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$3,175,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$14,250,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,979,945</b>
Note: Bond fund 2011, chapter 696			Water Access Running Total		
On Nov 19, 2013, Board made funding recommendations as follows:			Water Access Funds Available: \$622,000		
Conservation & Recreation: \$2,500,000	\$2,500,000		Lily Pond Expansion - WA		\$120,000
Farmland: \$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		Merrit Cove - WA		\$194,500
Working Waterfront \$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		Woodward Cove- WA		\$65,000
Water Access: \$500,000	\$500,000		Head of Tide Park II - WA		\$50,000
			<b>Water Access Funds Remaining \$192,500</b>		
DACF/LMF Board Meeting December 6, 2016					

4. **Project Allocations & Status – LMF Director**

Project Allocation		
Active Projects		Allocations
C&R	9	\$1,268,150
Water Access	1	\$ 50,000
Working Waterfront	2	<u>\$ 421,500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$1,739,650</b>
2017 Anticipated Closings: Goslings Island, Ellis River to Whitecap, Caribou Bog, Crow Island, Head of Tide Phase II		

## PRESENTATIONS

### **5. Overview of Board's Proposal Review & Scoring Process -LMF Director**

LMF Director reviewed the goals for the scoring and evaluation process which are to

1. Ensure fairness and objectivity in the review of proposals and
2. Ensure the funds are awarded to the applications that best satisfy the criteria of the LMF workbook.

Scores from each Board member are to be collected at the end of the day. LMF staff will process scores and develop an average score for each project for the Board to review and use to finalize their consensus score.

Sarah went on to explain that the presentations will be grouped by Significance rating (Statewide, Regional, Local, Water Access) and taken in alphabetical order. This is due to the fact that each Significance category has a different amount of total allowable base points. Presentations will be 5 minutes, with 5 minutes for the Board to follow up with questions and then an additional 2 minutes for public comment.

### **6. Ground Rules for the Day – Chairman Keliher**

Presentations and Board Q&A

Ground Rules - 11/7/2017

- Public attendance is welcome.
- This is a working meeting; Board members may direct questions to the applicants through the Chairman.
- The Board Chair will indicate the appropriate time when public comment regarding a proposal may be provided.
- Proposals are confidential until scored. This prevents undue influence on the Board through the scoring process and is in accordance with SOM purchasing policies. Board member will refrain from discussing proposals with applicants, the public or members of the press.
- Scoring is based on the information contained in the proposal applications. Those here to observe will avoid any actual or appearance of attempts to influence the scoring process. Likewise, Board members will refrain from asking questions of the public.
- Conflict of Interest:  
LMF statute says: **“If a charge of bias or personal financial interest, direct or indirect, is filed against a member requesting that member to withdraw from a proceeding of the board, that member shall determine whether or not to withdraw and shall make that determination part of the record of that proceeding.”**

It's OK to abstain from scoring or participating in the discussion of a particular proposal at your discretion.

- The Board will endeavor to stick to the agenda and avoid broader topics that may not relate to the scoring process.

## 7. Presentations by Applicants & Opportunity for Public Comment

### State Significant Projects

**Big Six Conservation Easement:** The Big Six Forest project will place a CONSERVATION EASEMENT on 23,056 acres in Big Six Township (T6R19) on the Maine-Quebec border. The property is likely America's largest maple syrup producing property with 342,000 taps that in 2016 produced approximately 124,000 gallons of syrup or 18.4% of Maine's supply and 2.95% of the United States' supply. The property also contains important ecological assets including 4,000 acres of old forest, 2,000 acres of wetlands, and the headwaters of the St John and West Branch of the Penobscot Rivers.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on the accessibility of the property, North Maine Woods gates and fees, availability for parking for trucks with snowmobile trailers, plans to develop more parking spots, and the location of the areas where sugar maples are tapped and areas used for processing maple syrup.

Chairman Keliher opened for Public comment.

Kerry Hegarty from Jackman spoke in opposition to the project.

LMF Director provided the Board with 3 letters from individuals opposed to the project.

Chairman Keliher: With no further public comments, the chair closed discussion

**Bethel Community Forest:** These undeveloped lands/foothills provide the landscape backdrop to Bethel, and is located within 2 miles of Bethel Village. Property will be managed as a community forest and provide public access to the abutting Town-owned "Bingham Forest". Suitable location for a potential "trail hub" providing interconnection for a multi-use 4-season recreational trail network extending from Bethel Village to Sunday River Ski Area; helps expand & diversify the town's recreation & tourism based economy. Expands the range of community benefits to include trails, sustainable harvest timber revenue, wildlife habitat protection, and open space for Bethel; provides public access for hunting, fishing, hiking, x-country skiing; biking; snowmobiling with nearly 10 miles of interior woods road network; added natural buffer to adjacent 200 ac. Bethel Water District lands.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on ownership, municipal ownership elsewhere in the town, current level of access and proposed access, and discussed whether this was a project of regional or statewide significance.

Chairman Keliher opened for Public comment.

Glen Saller from Mahoosuc Pathways and Iris Roberts spoke in support of this project.

Chairman Keliher: With no further public comments, the chair closed discussion

**Easter Hill Beaches:** Abuts Owls Head State Park and has established hiking trail links. Large expansive beaches close to well populated areas. Current conservation easement does not guarantee public access though the public reportedly uses the beach and trails. From page 6 of the proposal: “In the future, should BPL be in a position of wanting to acquire the property directly, MCHT would willingly assign ownership to the State of Maine”.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on whether there is boat access, beach surface is cobblestone to beach sand, conservation easement currently in place so LMF funds would guarantee public access, budget is for fee acquisition of land encumbered with a CE,

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Madison Branch Oakland, Emden Multi-Use Rail Trail:** Acquisition and development of a 32-mile multi-use trail corridor running through 6 municipalities that will connect and provide access to many more miles of ITS & ATV trails. Acquisition of this multi-use trail will accomplish the Department’s goals identified in its Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – to connect More Mainers of all Ages with the Health and Wellness benefits of Outdoor Recreation and Support Regionally Connected Trail Systems in Maine’s Less Developed Regions to Increase Access to Outdoor Recreation for Maine’s Rural Population and Enhance Economic Development.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on whether the state would own the train trestles and the cost to maintain them, whether the trail would be purchase in sections or all at once, need for rail line in this part of the state, whether the ties would be removed prior to sale, and width of the Right of Way.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

### **Locally Significant Projects**

**Getchell Pasture/Quake:** A multi-parcel project comprised of 3 undeveloped land parcels, with established trails on 2 of the 3 parcels. The 70 acres of forested land parcel features a naturally diverse stream floodplain with 3,200 feet of frontage that are major tributaries to the Merriland River, a class A water and is adjacent to existing conserved lands. The 5.3 acres’ parcel provides access/space for parking & for the public to access the Getchell Pasture property and the nearby Eastern Trail recreation corridor;

Located in a high growth populated area of Maine, all project lands support important wildlife transitional habitat (game birds, NE Cottontail, deer, etc.) and located in proximity to other

conserved lands. All Town of Wells Conservation Lands are available to the public for traditional recreational purposes: hunting, hiking, snowshoeing, fishing, berrying.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board inquired about the status of the Eastern Trail in this area and asked for clarification on the project configuration and structure, as well as the relationship between the various parcels.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Hope Woods:** Highly used accessible intown location with the capacity for increased usage. It has an established network of trails with several trailheads terminating on public roads. Excellent linkage to abutting neighborhoods and school.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification about the access that exists from the local school.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Old Talbot Farm:** An agricultural conservation easement on open, working farmland (22± ac.) and forested farmland (107± ac.) ensures the viability & conservation of the property's important agricultural soils and lands supporting productive agriculture.

Historic property in the town of Arundel; conserving lands having a direct connection to Arundel's cultural, farming heritage. Conserving project property keeps the terrain intact; provides Open Space; supports wildlife habitat and other critical natural and agricultural resources that assures that a family-owned and operated agricultural enterprise based in Arundel can expand and further diversify its agricultural operation & benefits the local and regional economy;

Provides a natural buffer along the Eastern Trail recreation corridor & retains 1,500' of undeveloped water frontage along the Kennebunk River & continued availability for future generations within Maine's most populated region.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board inquired about the status of the Eastern Trail in this area and asked for clarification on the project configuration and structure.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Peabody Fitch Woods:** Aims to conserve a large intact forested parcel of local, cultural and recreational significance for purposes of creating a Community Forest with lands managed for a variety of recreational, scenic, plant and wildlife habitat, and water quality benefits.

Project property is adjacent to Bridgton Historical Society's "Narramissic" Peabody-Fitch farmstead (listed on the National Register of Historic Places"); and conservation of these long held, family owned project lands comprising a part of Peabody Pitch Farm, will provide public access opportunity for hunting, hiking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, nature observation. Property has an existing forest trail network. Once restored and upgraded, provides access to scenic views of the White Mountains and western Maine's foothills and access to traditional outdoor recreation. Project property is located in proximity to other LELT, Town of Bridgton, and Lakes Environmental Association conserved lands.

Forested land also support a segment of ATV trail that traverses the property as a loop trail off ITS#89. This trail also accommodates snowmobiles.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on the relationship between the various parcels of conserved lands in the area and continued snowmobile access.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

## **Water Access**

### **Lubec Boat Landing:**

Identified as a priority site by the State: Strategic Plan for providing

- Public Access to Maine Waters for Boating and Fishing (IF&W and DOC, 1995): N/A
- Coast Water Access Priority Area for Boating and Fishing (SPO and DMR, 2000): Subject not identified

Physical Characteristics suitable for access:

- Identified by ACOE as alternative Lubec Harbor site.
- Increased safety over other existing launch sites.
- Provides year around access and shelter from storms.

Limited impact on natural/cultural resources:

- Site will be and will enhance other cultural resources

Other water access sites are limited:

- State Boat Launch is operational in summer months but commercial demands are high in winter months.

Supports high value fisheries:

- Fishing fleet valued at \$2.5 million/\$5 million seasonally
- Cobscook Bay Region landings from 2006-2016 totaled \$91 million.
- In order of value, Lobster landings account for half, followed by Urchins, Scallops, Clams, and Periwinkles.

Multiple types of use will be supported and a diverse user group will benefit:

- Access for Skiffs to reach commercial fishing boats on moorings
- Resident and tourists use of motorized and non-motorized boats
- Kayaks, canoes, sailboats, pontoon boats and speed boats.

Threat to conversion is high:

- Currently a residential home but could be intensified to condominiums or non-compatible commercial use.

Total Project cost: \$115,100, LMF funding request: \$54,000

**Lunch Break:** Adjourned for Lunch at 12:12, taking 30 minutes

**Presentation by Application & Opportunity for Public Comment – Continued.**

**Regionally Significant Projects**

**Brigee Farms:** An agricultural conservation easement on 56± acres of open, working farmland ensures the viability and permanent protection of the property’s important agricultural soils and lands supporting productive agriculture.

As a landmark property in the town of Turner, these lands have direct connection to Turner’s agricultural heritage. Conserving these lands keeps the terrain intact; retains critical natural resources comprising these working lands that benefit the local and regional economy; provides a natural buffer for working lands from prospective encroaching residential development; assures that a family-owned and operated agricultural enterprise based in Turner has these lands available for continued productive agriculture purpose and availability for future generations.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on the access and number of acres.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Caterpillar Hill:** Conserves land offering expansive scenic views to the public from the westerly facing hillside of Caterpillar Hill; Project property offers combination of public benefits: recreational land having scenic importance, provides improved water access, conserves lands supporting wildlife habitat and plant communities, restores and expands blueberry fields – a uniquely Maine agricultural resource & staple of Maine’s cultural landscape heritage;

Provides opportunity for people traveling, walking, biking along a stretch of SR 15 to experience: panoramic views to hills and ridgelines across Penobscot Bay, ringside view of sunsets, of fall foliage, of nearby freshwater ponds (including Walker Pond), and of blueberry barrens;

Restoration of blueberry fields expands public opportunity for berry harvesting; expands access for x-country skiing, hiking & connectivity to BHHT trail network; availability of lands for hunting; increases opportunities for picnicking, fishing, improved access to municipal beach & boat launch facility located at Walker Pond.

Chairman Keliher asked the board for any questions.

The Board inquired about the relationship between the area used for a DOT rest stop and the property, the existing road through the property and what it is used for, and the zoning of the property.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.



**Clark Island:** Offers unique opportunity to conserve last remaining ~ 2± miles of undeveloped shoreline in Mid-coast region on Long Cove and Clark Cove, including ~1/4 mile of coastal sandy and cobble beach waterfront;

Supports a diversity of marine and terrestrial habitat types: mudflats, salt marshes which have been designated significant tidal wading bird & waterfowl habitat; freshwater wetlands, vernal pools;

Offers areas of cultural interest, walking trails, sandy beaches, and present throughout the property are remains of former granite quarrying operations, including a water filled quarry;

A causeway provides direct access from the mainland to the island for public recreational use that includes: hiking, picnicking, coastal swimming, hunting, fishing, nature observation.

Project property is adjacent to 32 ac. of land encumbered by “forever wild” conservation easement held by ME DIFW.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked about the restrictions on vehicular access across the causeway, existing parking, and the maintenance agreement and applicant’s policy on payment of taxes.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Cousens Property:** Supplements recreation and conservation offered at the nearby R. Waldo Tyler Wildlife Management Area; added protections for aquaculture farming (oyster), bird watching and hunting opportunities, high value salt marsh habitat.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

Fred Bucklin recused himself from this project due to a business relationship with the applicant.

The Board asked the applicant about current access and what access will be available after acquired, and what their policy is for paying taxes.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Harvard Mine:** The Harvard Mine is a 1-acre inholding on the western portion of the Trust’s 295- acre Noyes Mountain Preserve. Inactive now for many decades, the mine is known for apatite, “Harvard Green” tourmaline, garnet, quartz, and mica. The mountain creates a majestic backdrop to Norway’s Lake Pennessewassee. Protecting public access to the Harvard Quarry on Noyes Mountain has significant cultural and educational value. Purchase of the quarry will ensure public access, educational programming, and interpretation to the historic quarry mine and the gem mining history of Western Maine. This is a quarry mine, not a pit mine, and very safe for exploration.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board had questions about how the property is accessed, whether additional blasting or manual mining would be allowed and the applicants policy on payment of taxes.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Jordan Homestead:** Part of a planned hiking/walking trail along the east side of the Union River just outside of Ellsworth center. If this 2.5-mile trail is built it should prove to be highly used by the community and others visiting the area. High scenic value of the tidal Union river at this location.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked for clarification about the nearby conservation land and recreational resources, establishment of the trail, availability of parking and the applicant's policy on payment of property taxes.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Kennebec Highlands:** Secures 20 acres in-holding adjacent to an existing trail and management road, allowing continuous ownership and management for BPL Secures an additional 91 acres at the north end of the management unit, abutting existing state and BRCA land, allowing for the development of additional recreational trail opportunities and linkages to existing trails. Both acquisitions will help to accomplish the Department's goals of retaining this area as a remote, undeveloped, backwoods experience, while also expanding recreational opportunities for the public

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked for clarification on the following items: what is the purpose of expanding this area, where is existing parking access, are hunting, fishing and trapping allowed, will current level of access be maintained.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**McLaughlin's Crossing:** Conservation of 474 acres in fee simple ownership contributes to 1,098 acres block of contiguous lands that expands recreational opportunities near Lake St. George State Park; provides public access; provides important connectivity for wildlife habitat, and lands "linking" the Sheepscot River and St. George River watersheds; creates vegetative buffers for river and stream corridors, retains forest buffer and habitat along a 2.25 miles stretch along both sides of upper Sheepscot River, an important Maine river for migratory fish (including Atlantic salmon), enhances community health and engages youth with a multi-use trail network having connectivity to Lake St. George State Park; Promotes sustainable economic development through recreation-based nature tourism.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The board asked for clarification about whether the project configuration leads to adjacent properties being land locked, whether one of these properties included a cell tower, property boundaries are not exactly as depicted, access points and what type of access will be available for the public on the different properties.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed.

At this time, the Chair called for a 15-minute break.

Chairman Keliher then called the meeting back in session.

**Mirror Lake Conservation Easement:** Conservation easement over 790 acres of land supporting vital ecological functions. Project will protect a large and ecologically significant area of intact natural habitat, conserve a topographically diverse landscape that includes several rare natural community types and species that are restricted to upper elevations of the coastal mountains of this area, preserve an important wildlife corridor and wetlands, and safeguard the drinking water source for six coastal municipalities. Additionally, this conservation easement will provide the opportunity to expand and improve four-season multi-use recreational access to one of the most popular natural and recreational areas in our region for the benefit of the Mid-Coast community and many seasonal visitors.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked for clarification regarding the water company's ownership of the property and the trails developed on a portion of the property, applicant's policy on payment of taxes, the current level of public access and whether that will continue, what the zoning is, existing and future parking will be.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Mountain Road:** Property provides a habitat link and expanded connection between state owned adjacent Mt. Agamenticus Wildlife Management Area lands. Property will protect a high-priority property documented by state biologists as being used by rare turtle species.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked about the applicant's policy on payment of property taxes, the amount of road frontage, whether the road is paved and includes electricity or sewer hook ups, status of an appraisal, maintenance of the road, status of parking, and the relationship between public use and preservation for habitat.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Pettegrow Point:** This is a popular beach with trailered boat access for use by commercial fisherman for loading/unloading traps, gear, floats, and by the public – the original site was acquired with funding from LMF. The new property is 23 acres with 2,000’ of coastline. The informal trails are expected to become popular. Expanded parking will be created for users of this property and adjacent Pettegrow Beach.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board asked about the size and scope of the cemetery on the property.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Roberts Farm Preserve Extension:** The Western Foothills Land Trust (WFLT) proposes to purchase in fee, a 39-acre steeply sloped parcel as an extension to Roberts Farm Preserve in Norway which will protect the balance of the southern rim of the Penneesseewassee Lake watershed and which will allow the Trust to add more than 2 miles of additional Nordic ski trails, hiking, and mountain bike trails and linking the existing 295 acres Roberts Farm Preserve to downtown Norway. The Link to Maine Street will complete a 5-mile trail and road loop from downtown via trails with wonderful views of the lake and distant mountains. The added land will allow for expanded trails for ongoing community events such as community races, and recreational programs for kids of all ages, including students at SAD 17.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The board clarified the amount of road frontage, the parcel’s proximity to town, and use of the property by schools in the region for skiing.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Robinson Pond South:** Expands connectivity to existing 145 ac. Robinson Woods Preserve and provides for greater recreation opportunities in local community and greater region that supports the largest population center in Maine and in an area where there is intense land development pressure. Project property has a diversity of landscape types: woodlands, streams, wetlands, meadows interspersed with areas of wild blueberry, fields, 7 acre pond; Subject property supports quality habitat for mammals and waterfowl. Provides 1.6 miles of existing trails with connectivity to 3.3 miles of trails on the adjacent Robinson woods Preserve; subject property has excellent public road access;

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

Seeing none, Chairman Keliher opened the floor for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Schooner Cove:**

This property provides access for clammers, fishermen, and recreational boaters, provides access to Leighton Point Beach and allows for improved habitat protection. This project is a collaboration between Maine Coast Heritage Trust (MCHT) and Downeast Coastal Conservancy

(DCC), with DCC holding the 13 acres fee property and MCHT holding the 49 acres conservation easement.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board clarified whether the surrounding area is open to hunting and fishing, whether the waterfront is beach, or mud flats and whether the organizations pay taxes on their conservation land.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Woodward Point:** Guaranteed public access to shellfish beds (~38.12 acres). Increased outdoor recreational opportunities near population centers. ~4 acres of fringing salt marsh and ~0.87 acres of forested wetlands. Protection of migratory waterfowl breeding, staging and wintering (20 documented species annually).

Chairman Keliher: asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board clarified whether the area supports clam flats, the location of proposed/existing parking and ROW across the property, the property configuration with abutters and land to be conserved with funds other than LMF, total acreage and whether the organizations pay taxes on their conservation land.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and moving on to next.

**Yarmouth Riverfront:** Property connects existing Town-owned conserved lands: Barker Preserve (22 ac.) and Town-owned Sligo Road Preserve (22 ac.). Project property creates a natural contiguous corridor with Town public lands; adjacent to growing neighborhoods; has proximity to Yarmouth's schools and commercial core; creates nearly one half-mile of contiguous undeveloped river shoreline;

Creates access and parking rights for the public to get to both the Barker Preserve and the Riverfront Preserve; improves public access opportunity for traditional outdoor recreation, i.e. hunting, fishing, & trapping, hiking, skating, x-country skiing, freshwater paddling on the Royal River & integrates directly with the Royal River Water Trail;

Property includes a rich matrix of tributary streams, riparian areas, mature floodplain woodlands support a variety of wildlife species, bird species, and distinct flora;

History of the project property provides cultural and historic connection for the community. Project parcel located on the edge of Yarmouth village has been a farm, now a forested land; a section of one of Maine's historic railroad corridors located adjacent to property. Town of Yarmouth's comprehensive plan and Open Space Plan identifies property as one of this community's land conservation/ acquisition priorities.

Chairman Keliher asked the board if they had any questions.

The Board clarified whether the Rail Road is active, and where parking would be located for the property.

Chairman Keliher: opened for Public comment. Seeing none, closed and that concludes the presentation of Round 9 LMF proposals.

Commissioner Whitcomb made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woodcock. The vote was unanimous.

Next Board meeting 11/9/2017

Next AOC meeting: TBD