

TOWN OF WARREN  
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
FEBRUARY 6, 2007

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robin Bennett, Jim Edgcomb, Tara Hamilton, Susan Hemmeter, Damon Reed, Erin Russell Story, Margo Wade, Chair.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Lew-Smith, Arrowwood Environmental

- AGENDA:**
- 1) 7:00 PM – Call to Order
  - 2) Discussion with Michael Lew-Smith, Arrowwood Environmental RE: Wildlife & Natural Heritage Inventory Project
  - 3) Warren Village 9 Lot Subdivision - discussion
  - 4) Project Up-Dates / Review Task List
  - 5) Other Business:
    - a. Possible change of meeting night to 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
    - b. Approve meeting minutes
    - c. Items for next meeting
  - 6) Adjourn – 10:00 PM

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**1) CALL TO ORDER**

Margo Wade, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**2) DISCUSSION WITH MICHAEL LEW-SMITH, ARROWWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL RE: WILDLIFE & NATURAL HERITAGE INVENTORY PROJECT**

Michael outlined the project scope and the group discussed the project purpose which is to conduct an inventory and evaluation of natural heritage elements that are important to the preservation of biological diversity in the Town of Warren. This information will be used to further define the Town's sense of community, and to establish priorities for preserving or creating zoning provisions to protect significant resources. Local planning officials will be provided accurate inventory information on key natural elements, an assessment of the significance of those elements, and management recommendations for preserving those elements. The project scope dated January 23, 2007 further outlines the project.

Jim will follow-up with Michael to pass along the Town's new mapping web site.

The group decided that an introduction meeting co-hosted by the Conservation Committee and the Planning Commission introducing the project to the Warren community would be beneficial. Distributing flyers about the intro meeting at Town Meeting could help to publicize the event.

Margo will follow-up with Michael to get the contract documents signed <sup>on</sup> Michael forwards drafts to the Committee. *when*

**3) WARREN VILLAGE 9 LOT SUBDIVISION**

The Newcomb Subdivision was discussed. Some areas of interest/concern included:

- maintaining the village growth center
- protection of traditional settlement patterns

- lack of information about primary and secondary conservation areas and lot boundaries being drawn prior to including this info on the site plan
- existence of deer yard

**4) PROJECT UP-DATES/REVIEW TASK LIST**

Town Meeting: The committee will move the two articles we submitted for the Town Meeting ballot and will be ready to speak to any comments and/or questions that may arise. Margo will be prepared to answer questions relating to expenditure from the CRF and general questions to the committee. Damon will be prepared to answer specific questions raised about the Commission vs. Committee article.

Ecological Inventory and Wildlife Habitat Assessment for Town of Warren: as discussed above.

Brownfields: Robin has submitted the signed application and discussed the possibility with CVRPC further. CVRPC asked wanted to know what type of redevelopment the town was contemplating for the parcel. Robin will convey that no development/redevelopment is contemplated at this time.

GPS Unit: Tara will purchase the unit after Town Meeting (once budgets have been approved). She has researched the units and has settled on an appropriate unit based on the town's needs. She has GPSed some trails already with a borrowed unit.

Town Forest Project: Tara updated the committee on the project and stated that the NFA is willing to grant the town approximately \$6,500 to hire a consultant to develop and implement a trail design plan for the Austin and Eaton parcels. The group agreed that this project will be an asset to the development of management plans for the parcels and will be a valuable asset to the town.

Ancient Roads: Warren did not receive grant money for the project. Susan and Robin have attended a workshop and are researching how to tackle the project. The Selectboard has asked for a plan that will outline how to proceed. Robin will look into purchasing maps. Formation of an "Ancient Roads Task Force" still seems most appropriate approach as the CC can not undertake the project alone.

**6) OTHER BUSINESS**

a) Possible change of meeting night to 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

The Selectboard wishes to meet with the Committee on a monthly basis. To that end the Committee will adjust our meeting night to align with the Selectboard's to minimize the number of monthly meeting for the group. Margo will talk to Cindi Jones to work out which night and time of the meeting and will convey the info to the Committee members.

b) Approval of meeting minutes

**MOTION by Susan Hemmeter, seconded by Jim Edgcomb to approve the December 5, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted. VOTE: unanimous. Motion carried.**

c) Items for next meeting

7) ADJOURN

By a unanimous vote the Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margo B. Wade

Conservation Committee

Robin Bennett 2/27/07  
Robin Bennett (date)

Jim Edgcomb (date)

Susan Hemmeter (date)

Tara Hamilton 2-27-07  
Tara Hamilton (date)

Damon Reed 02-27-07  
Damon Reed (date)

Erin Russell Story 2-27-07  
Erin Russell Story (date)

Margo Wade 2/27/2007  
Margo Wade (date)