

**TOWN OF WARREN  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jim Edgecomb, Caitrin Noel, Susan Hemmeter, George Schenk, Damon Reed, Robin Bennett and Margo Wade, chair.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dana Nagy

**AGENDA:**

- 1) 7:00 PM – Call to Order
- 2) Trails/ Mapping Project Update (Jim) – (30 Minutes)
- 3) Riverside Management Plan – Next steps (30 minutes)
- 4) Eaton Trails Update - (30 minutes)
- 5) Executive Session – to discuss real estate matters (30 minutes)
- 6) Other Updates (30 minutes)
- 7) Other Business (30 minutes)
  - a. Approve Invoices
  - b. Approve meeting minutes
  - c. Selectboard Check-in
  - d. Items for next meeting
- 8) Adjourn – 10:00 PM

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Robin called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

**II. TRAILS PROJECT UPDATE**

The project started 1 and 1/2 years ago. Project goals—1) have a map of public trails available to everyone 2) have a map that would be non-advertised but live in the town office to document trails—could be used in DRB subdivision review. Commission has a GPS unit to use in mapping unmapped trails. The crux off the issue is desire to get a map going. Jim worked with Priscilla and Myron to make a trail base map (accessible from town site), which includes Catamount Trail and a few other things (Ole’s and Blueberry Lake XC). Issues: don’t know how to import the info from GPS unit to base map. At one point Bryson offered to help with the importing, but never were able to connect with him. Maybe Dana can help with this.

Mac Rood is eager to participate in this project. The CC had talked about starting a sub-committee to work on this, but need a way to energize and kick-off the project—a technologically adept mapping person. First step—acquire additional existing map layers (focus on Public Trail/Public Land, Public Trail/Private Land, Semi-Public Trail/Private Land—Long Trail, National Forest Trails, Sugarbush, Ole’s, Blueberry Lake, Eaton Trail, Catamount Trail). George suggested identifying particularly important land features, and then look at trail development potential. Mapping subcommittee: Margo, George, Robin, Dana, Damon, Mac Rood. Start with brainstorming list of all trails, then get the public/semi-public on the list.

**III. RIVERSIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

First step that needs to be done and is complete the management actions table. Caitrin will e-mail the plan to the CC—please read the plan before the next meeting. Focus on page 35—management actions. Caitrin will create a draft of the management actions table and present to the commission at the next meeting.

**IV. EATON TRAILS UPDATE**

Jeannie Sargent is working with several groups at the Warren School on different aspects of the interpretive trails project—this spring, summer and fall. We need to sign a contract with Jeannie, and Margo will work with Cindi to set up a contract and reimbursement schedule. She will be paid from a MRVRD grant. Margo had scheduled Josh Ryan who developed the Eaton Trail plan for two trail building weekends—May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. Margo will send out a save the date and pull together the plan. She will send notice to GMVS, Harwood UHS, Sugarbush, Mad River Riders. Josh will lead the first weekend, then evaluate and determine if they need to come back the second weekend. Margo is not sure we will be able to complete the vista trail this summer. Next meeting—meet at the parcel at 6:30pm and walk the vista trail to decide whether or not we want to build it.

**V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION by Margo and seconded by Jim to go into executive session at 8:37 pm to discuss real estate matters. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

**MOTION by Jim and seconded by George to come out of executive session at 9:10 pm. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

**VI. OTHER UPDATES—KNOTWEED DISCUSSION**

Do we want to get involved in managing roadside knotweed as a commission? There was a cutback last year in Warren—on all roads, just missed two patches on Sugarbush Access Road and Lincoln Gap Road. If we take it on as a board, the SB wants to know who, what, where, when, and how. Margo—we should take this on as a commission. Let's work with Barry to find an appropriate location for drying the knotweed—maybe the gravel pit? Volunteers should be identified on each road to manage their road (Lincoln Gap, West Hill Rd (near Lincoln Gap), lower part of Fuller Hill Rd, Sugarbush Access Rd, West Hill/Golf Course Rd, Senor Road, Roxbury Mountain, Plunkton Rd). If we start cutting early plants will be smaller and easier to manage. Maybe we'll have 7 different teams, cutting schedule, mowing schedule and disposal plan. Should hold an educational program for excavators (i.e. Kingsbury, Viens). Should be on the agenda for the three town meeting. George will attend the SB meeting with Susan on 5/26.

**MOTION by Caitrin and seconded by Margo to create a knotweed commission and recommend action plan to Selectboard. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. Approve Invoices

**MOTION by George seconded by Caitrin to approve payment of invoice number 18088504 in the amount of \$500.00; VOTE: unanimous, motion passed.**

- b. Approve minutes from last meeting

**MOTION by George and seconded by Jim to approve the minutes for the March meeting with amendments. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

- c. Selectboard Check-in on 4/28
- d. Items for the Next Meeting (on 5/19) – Knotweed, Riverside Park, Upper Corridor Plan, summer meeting dates, trails, FWC project

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Margo and seconded by George to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Caitrin Noel*

**Conservation Commission**

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Robin Bennett (date)

*Ken Blair* 5/19/09  
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Ken Blair (date)

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Jim Edgcomb (date)

*Susan Hemmeter* 05/19/09  
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Susan Hemmeter (date)

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Caitrin Noel (date)

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Caitrin Noel (date)

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Damon Reed (date)

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Damon Reed (date)

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George Schenk (date)

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George Schenk (date)

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Margo Wade (date)

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Margo Wade (date)

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Dana Nagy (date)

*Dana Nagy* 5/19/09  
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Dana Nagy (date)