

**TOWN OF WARREN
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: George Schenk, Robin Bennett, Caitrin Noel, Ken Blair, , Damon Reed,
Don LaHaye,

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan Shupe, Jamie Fidel, and Craig Klofac

AGENDA:

- 1) 7:00 PM – Call to Order
- 2) Forest, Wildlife Communities – Town Plan rewrite discussion
- 3) Conservation Commission Outreach
- 4) Updates
 - a. Kingsbury Trails
 - b. trails Project
 - c. Eaton Trails
 - d. Forest Wildlife and Communities
 - e. other
 - f. knotweed
- 5) Executive Session
- 6) Other Business
 - a. Approve Invoices
 - b. Approve meeting minutes
 - c. Selectboard Check-in
 - d. Items for next meeting
- 7) Adjourn – 10:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Robin called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

II. Forest, Wildlife Communities

This presentation was made by Bryan Shupe and Jamie Fidel as a continuation of a project started earlier with Chapter 3 of the Warren Town Plan. The discussion tonight was on Chapter 10. Much of the discussion centered around using the data from the Arrowwood study to include core habitat and upland natural communities. In the current zoning the phrase “Critical wildlife” is suggested to be changed to “Significant wildlife” especially for the deliberations of the DRB. Section 2.1 is forest reserve, which is high elevation, the concern is contiguous habitat and should single family homes be a conditional use? The objective is to minimize forest fragmentation. Moving on to Section 7.3 under subdivision review, all conservation resources should be identified and to add “significant wildlife” as defined in the Arrowwood study. At this time, corridors and habitat are considered secondary resources, we should consider making them primary. There is also a need to clarify the application requirements for site analysis using maps. Article 6 includes a sketch plan, Article 7 includes a site plan. This is not a step by step process. We need to include definitions for “Forest Fragmentation” and “Upland Natural Communities”. We also need to clarify “Excessive impact” and “Undue adverse effect” See chapter three to perhaps include “any impact” We need to work to make the whole process clear and easy which will also include the use of maps to delineate the boundaries of significant habitat perhaps utilizing the digitized Arrowwood maps the Yins has.

III. Conservation Commssion Outreach

Conservation Commission

 10/20/09

Robin Bennett (date)

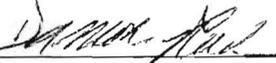
Ken Blair (date)

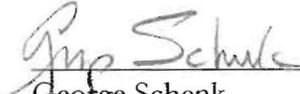
Jim Edgcomb (date)

Susan Hemmeter (date)

 10/20/09

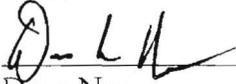
Caitrin Noel (date)

 _____
Damon Reed (date)

 10.20.09

George Schenk (date)

Margo Wade (date)

 10/20/09

Dana Nagy (date)

A lengthy discussion was had about how to best prepare to present our position to the voters at Town Meeting and then about fund raising in general. The ideas presented included forest wildlife outreach, walks on the Eaton Trail to celebrate its opening, a Flatbread Bake, a lecture series and attempting to procure matching funds.

IV. Updates

a. Kingsbury Trails

The path association has approved the document and it has been forwarded to the attorneys.

b. Trails

Ongoing, no news for this meeting

c. Eaton Trails

Some feel more debate is in order and that a trail, if constructed, should avoid the cliffs.

d. Forests, wildlife communities

There is a need for more coordination

e. other

There was no discussion.

f. knotweed

There is a need to advertise two needed cuttings before the growing season ends and volunteers are needed to help.

V. Executive Session

There was no executive session

VII. Other business

a. There were no invoices presented

b. June and July minutes were accepted with minor corrections

c. There was no discussion of the selectboard check in.

d. There was no formal presentation for next month's agenda

VIII. adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 on a motion by Ken, seconded by Susan, the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Blair