

**Town of Warren
Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
June 28, 2011**

Members Present: George Schenk, Margo Wade, Robin Bennett, Kate Wanner, Jim Edgcomb, Robin Bleier, Damon Reed

Others Present: Barry Simpson

Agenda:

- 1) 7:00 PM- Call to Order
- 2) Final CC review of the Eaton Trails signage (30 minutes)

Review signage, approve

- 3) Valley Trails Initiative (30 minutes)

Review the Valley Trails Initiative list of existing public access ROW/easements

- 4) Updates (30 minutes)

- a. Priorities for Conservation
- b. Forest, Wildlife and Communities Project & Welcome Wagon
- c. Knotweed
- d. Tri-Town meeting
- e. Wildlife crossing study
- f. Summer/yearlong project ideas
- g. Other

- 5) Other Business (30 minutes)

- a. Approve invoices
 - b. Approve meeting minutes
 - c. Selectboard Check-in
 - d. Items for next meeting
 - 6) Adjourn- 9:00 PM
-

I. Call to Order

Robin Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

II. Final CC review of the Eaton Trails signage

Margo circulated copies of the interpretive signs to be put throughout the Eaton Town Forest, and at the trailhead kiosk. Tara Hamilton is currently proofing all of the signs and layout. The Commission reviewed the content and made suggestions. Additional comments should be sent to Margo by July 10th. The goal is to get these signs posted on the Lollipop trail in September or October.

III. Valley Trails Initiative

The Commission reviewed the Valley Trails Initiative list of existing public access ROW/easements and brainstormed about other potential properties that should be on the list. The Initiative is updating the Valley Trails map and will be hosting a Summit in October. Margo is representing the Commission at monthly meetings.

IV. Updates

- a. Priorities for Conservation- Caitrin plans on writing up the notes about our priorities.
- b. Forest, Wildlife and Communities Project & Welcome Wagon- no current updates, Robin Bennett

will send an email to Jane Lazorchak to get an update.

c. Knotweed- Residents can dispose of cut knotweed at the end of River Road on Town land where there is a current knotweed infestation. The sign needs to be replaced. The Commission would like to figure out a plan to get rid of the knotweed at Riverside Park. Robin Bleier will contact the staff from The Nature Conservancy's Wise on Weeds program and Susan Hemeter, then write a letter to the Valley Reporter about how residents should deal with knotweed on their property.

d. Tri-Town meeting- Scheduled for September 8th, 6:30 PM at Lareau Farm. Robin Bennett will notify other boards to confirm and work with Josh Schwartz on organizing it.

e. Wildlife crossing study- Commission will request that staff from Arrowwood come to a meeting to discuss ground-truthing priorities. Commission will also ask them about potential funding for these types of studies. Kate will talk to VT Community Foundation to explore whether there are any opportunities for funding through them.

f. Summer/yearlong project ideas- no updates

g. Other: The Commission discussed formalizing the Eaton Woods as an official Town Forest, and explore an opportunity to put a conservation easement on the property to protect it in perpetuity. Kate will bring information about the Open Space Institute's Community Forest Fund to the next meeting, which can provide funds to add additional land onto the Town Forest and/or provide funds to reimburse costs associated with conserving the property (survey, legal, other costs).

V. Other Business

a. Approve invoices- none

b. Approve meeting minutes- **MOTION by Robin Bleier and seconded by Damon Reed to approve minutes from May. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

c. Selectboard Check-in- no update

d. Items for next meeting- Barry notified the Commission that he has applied for a Transportation Enhancement grant to replace the abutment of the covered bridge. He would like to be on next meeting's agenda to discuss, and request a letter of support from the Commission.

VI. Adjournment

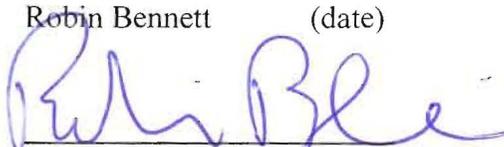
MOTION by Robin Bleier, seconded by Damon Reed to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.

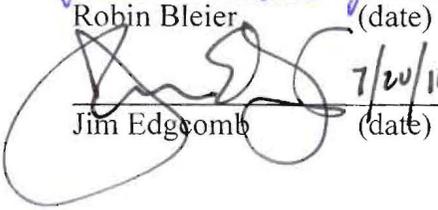
Respectfully submitted,
Kate Wanner

Conservation Commission

Robin Bennett (date)



Robin Bleier (date)



Jim Edgecomb (date)

7/20/11

Caitrin Noel (date)

Damon Reed (date)

George Schenk (date)

Margo Wade (date)

Kate Wanner 7/20/14

Kate Wanner (date)