

Town of Warren
Conservation Commission
Meeting Location: Warren Town Offices
Monday September 30 , 2013

Present: Kate Wanner, Damon Reed, Jim Edgcomb, Jito Coleman, George Schenck

1) **Call to Order: 7:10 PM**

2) **Wildlife Tracking: Focus Areas:**

Jito suggests we overlay biofinder with wildlife corridor map to make sure most recent deer yards are incorporated. Kate will do this before next meeting.

Miron encouraged WCC to go to Planning Commission meeting on Sept 23 which involved Anne Margolis, Public Service Dept and Bill Foster, senior planner at ANR. Public Service Board takes into consideration conservation values with regards to energy siting, the more specific details the better. The results of our corridor study would be very helpful. The planning commission is currently updating the energy section of our town plan and thus trying to get input from boards and citizens. If the results of the corridor study were in the town plan, even better.

Jito says wind map for Warren is fairly poor. The elevation-based model is not very accurate in complex terrain.

We need to follow up with landowners regarding game cameras for the wildlife tracking study. Try to make contact within next two weeks.

Jim will talk to Ann Burling- off of Plunkton Rd. Jito will talk to Claudia. Damon will contact Missy Clark. Damon will ask Rita and Miron about putting cameras on town land, with notice to Barry. George will contact Red Deer Comp. Jim and Margo will talk to DeFreests.

Arrowwood would like to set up cameras ahead of the fall season, tracking in winter, need permission to put up camera and access the camera occasionally.

Jim will talk to Aaron to see if they can write up a permission letter for the landowners. George will write it up if they don't have one.

There is likely too much disturbance by the bridge to make it a useful spot.

Kate will send George the full contact info for Red Deer Company NV.

Kate will confirm with Liza whether DeFreest areas at four corners is conserved or not.

3) **Crowdsourcing wildlife sightings**, Jito is meeting with Katie Sullivan from Warren School this week. May modify current system, or hop on with Vermont Atlas through VT Center for Ecostudies.

4) **Other Business:**

- AVCC tiny grant check received in July. Damon sent thank you letter.
- Arrowwood invoice due 9/1. Damon motioned to approve invoice, George seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Check will be paid tomorrow.
- New River park on Rte 100: great swimming hole there. House will be removed. Potential interest in community garden there? Discussion about parking area and public access. Should let the river do its thing. Kate will ask Caitrin if she is willing to make a formal recommendation to the town with respect to the best plan for the river. Let it reforest, which would be no cost to town. There may be restrictions from FEMA about future uses. Are there state or local funds to plant a forested buffer? Kate talk to Mike Klein about that.
- Kate heard another Conservation Commission in the Upper Valley offers a set amount to offset legal, closing or stewardship endowments to anyone in their town who donates a conservation easement to a qualified non-profit. The Warren Conservation Fund could definitely be used for those costs and it would encourage conservation. Talk to conservation commissions in Fayston and Waitsfield at tritown meeting about whether they would be interested in a Valley-wide commitment, then approach selectboards.
- Solar array on open field of Town Forest. No objections.
- Central Vermont Regional Planning District is doing regional forestland stewardship analysis and will be contacting WCC soon. Warren, Waitsfield and Fayston are ahead of the game because of all the conservation planning associated with Forests, Wildlife & Communities group.
- New WCC member: John, environmental computer modeler. Might be interested. Good skill set. George will ask him and invite him to our October meeting.

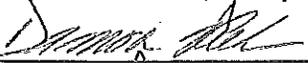
3) **Adjourn** – 8:55 PM Jim Edgcomb moves to adjourn, Jito seconded, all in favor.

Next meeting is October 22nd, 7 pm.

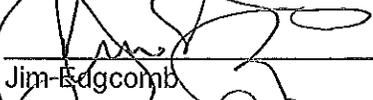
Conservation Commission

Group Scheuk 10.22.13

GEORGE SCHENK

 10/22/13

Damon Reed (date)

 10/22/13

Jim Edgcomb (date)

 10/22/13

Rocky Bleier (date)

 10/22/13

Kate Wanner (date)

 22 Oct '13

Jito Coleman (date)

cc: Selectboard, PC, DRB, MRVPD, web, post

