

**Town of Warren
Planning Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Monday August 11, 2014**

Members Present: Craig Klofach, Mike Ketchel, Mike Bridgewater, Camilla Behn, and Dan Raddock.

Others Present: Miron Malboeuf and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call meeting to order, 7:30 pm.

1. Opportunity for Public Comment 7:30 - 7:45
2. Draft language for Town of Warren plan Green Infrastructure/Low-Impact Development
3. Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program's "Guide to Tree Ordinances for Vermont Municipalities"
4. Initial Town Plan Language for energy chapters.
5. Review & sign minutes July 28th, 2014
6. Other & New business:

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm. There was no one from the public in attendance.

At the previous meeting the members discussed proposed language to satisfy some of the deficiencies found in a review done by CVRPC of how infrastructure is handled in the Town Plan and the Land Use regulations. One of the items brought up in the review was that the Town did not have a tree ordinance. At the last meeting the "Guide to Tree Ordinances for Vermont Municipalities" was handed out for the members to review and be prepared to discuss at this meeting. The question was posed as to whether a tree ordinance would apply to just public spaces or also private land. Most thought that it could apply to both but that in the case of private land only to trees that were dead or dying and posing a possible threat to structures [buildings] or infrastructures [telephone lines, street lights]. In looking at the State statutes there was a section that talked about disease infestations and the state stepping in to control the spread the disease. Some members cautioned about adding unnecessary regulations – do we have a problem that needs corrective action? Can we just default to the state regulations? They also talked about an ordinance that would protect public trees, forests, and how they really needed to have this part of the discussion with the Conservation Commission [CC] along with the topic of forest fragmentation.

An initial draft of proposed language changes for the energy chapter in the Town Plan was continued until the next meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and signed. In other business Mr. Malboeuf told the members that Mr. Schwartz, the Executive director of the MRVPD, would be at the next meeting on August 25th. Mr. Klofach reported that the Select Board seemed to be moving in the direction of leaving Riversideside Park "wild" except for a portion on the north side that would be mowed. Ms. Behn said she would not be available for the meeting on the 25th.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth V. Robbins

DRB/PC Assistant

Planning Commission

Dan Raddock date

Camilla Behn date

Craig Klofach date

Mike Ketchel date

Mike Bridgewater date

DRAFT