

## Warner Conservation Commission

Minutes of Meeting  
March 1, 2017 at 7:00 PM

**Attending:** Nancy Martin, Doug Allen, Scott Warren, Mike Amaral, Phil Stockwell, and Russ St.Pierre (recording)

**Also Attending:** Ben Frost and Tim Blagden

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of February 1, 2017 were approved with amendments.

### **Master Plan Update:**

Ben Frost attended at the Commission's invitation to discuss the Planning Board's Master Plan revisions. He noted that the current Master Plan was adopted in 2011 and a light review had begun last year. Sections being reviewed include housing, transportation, cultural resources (omitted from the 2011 document), natural resources, and energy resources. He asked Commission members to review the current natural resources section to identify any omissions, additions, or corrections. The Commission will discuss their findings at the April meeting

### **Rail Trail Update:**

Tim Blagden was present to discuss local issues in the effort to create the Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail. He explained the vision is to create a trail along the route of the old Concord-Claremont railroad grade where it still exists, and to fill in missing sections by using local roads. He is aware of concerns about impacts to local riparian habitats and specifically to turtle habitat along the corridor. He explained there are methods to eliminate or significantly reduce impacts to sensitive areas for both construction of the trail and for its subsequent use. The Commission will conduct a site walk of the corridor when the snow is gone. In the meantime, there will be a meeting at the library on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM to discuss the trail.

### **Land Protection Updates:**

*Collins Parcel* – There was nothing new to report.

*Willow Brook/Bartlett Loop* – The Board of Selectmen responded to the Five Rivers Conservation Trust by confirming they will move forward with placing an easement on the entire town-owned parcel. Five Rivers will proceed with the conservation easement for the Warren's property.

*State-owned Parcel (Map 7, Lot 1)* – After completing a reappraisal of the property, the Department of Transportation lowered the asking price to \$6000. An administrative fee of \$1100 will also be charged, though as noted in last month's minutes, the Town can ask that this fee be waived. A motion was made to ask the Board of Selectmen to expend conservation funds in the amount of \$7100 to purchase Map 7, Lot 1 from the Department of Transportation. The motion passed unanimously.

*Indian Museum Parcel* – Nothing new to report

### **March 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting on ATVs:**

Hope to bring different stakeholders together to discuss the issues. Nancy notified some property owners but hasn't heard back. Jim Bingham will facilitate the discussion.

**Chandler Hiking Trails:**

There was nothing new to report.

**Warner Economic Development Update:**

Mike explained that the relatively new committee's was investigating ways to market Warner more effectively to better utilized commercially zoned properties. They are developing a draft report that will go to the Board of Selectmen in a couple of months. The idea is to better promote Warner as a good place to live and work.

**Warner River Protection Update:**

The Planning Board should be getting a request from the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission asking for their support of the nomination. The nomination paperwork will be submitted to the Department of Environmental Services in May for their review.

**Wetlands Protection:**

There were no new permits or notifications to report.

**Planning Board Report:**

The Planning Board has been experiencing a low level of activity.

**New Business:**

The Conservation Commission received a letter from some residents expressing concerns about the proposed solar array. The Commission will discuss the letter at the April meeting.

**Old Business:**

Recently received easement monitoring reports were distributed to Commission members for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

**The next meeting will be on, April 5, 2017, at 7:00 PM.**