

Town of Warner, New Hampshire  
Conservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order 7:02 pm

Present: Stephanie Monette, Doug Allen, Nancy Martin (Chair), Michael Amaral and Alice Chamberlin

Public: Rebecca Augeri, Tim Blagden

1. Approve August Minutes: The minutes were approved without amendment. Motion to approve made by A. Chamberlin; seconded by M. Amaral
  
2. Chandler Reservation Trails/Blow Down: Rebecca Augeri noted that a dozen or more large trees are down across trail, making use difficult and unsuitable for children. Signage also needs to be checked.
  - Sept. 16 Trail Assessment Site Walk scheduled for 9 am. Nancy to speak with Gerry Courser to coordinate with Chandler Reservation and learn if trail maintenance could occur concurrently with upcoming timber harvest.
  - Trail Finder-Doug : No progress reported
  
3. Warner River Designation:
  - Culminating two years of work among five towns, SB 445 was signed into law on Aug.7 by Gov. Sununu. Sept. celebration to follow.
  - Local Advisory Council (LAC) membership discussed. Each town can have 3 representatives on the LAC. Candidates are needed and must be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.
  - DES Watershed Grant Application. Funds will be available to work on a Watershed Management Plan, as well as restoration projects.
  
4. Warner River VRAP-LAC:
  - 12 sites are being sampled to monitor water quality indicators on a monthly basis.
  
5. Rail Trail Update
  - Discussion on an amendment to 2011 Master Plan in support of the Rail Trail passed PB
  - Tim Blagden noted that DES requested that the wetlands impacts to Rail Trail segments on the adjacent Nicols and Knoxlands parcels be considered in one application.
  
6. Land Protection
  - Children's Brook Project- Warner DOT Remediation. Nancy met with Tim Allen at Bartlett Loop and discussed erosion and partial driveway problems noted by Susi and Doug during an earlier site walk. Some site work may require adjacent land owner consent, and driveway restoration could impact a vernal pool. More information needed before proceeding.
  - Brown Family/Frazier Brook Farm- Town of Warner (Con.Comm. Funds) contributed \$75K to this project. That leaves about \$77.8 K in the Con Comm acct. Michael asked if we had seen a copy of the Conservation Easement for the parcel and Nancy will contact Andy at ASLPT.
  - Discussion about how Warner DOT is maintaining the town's gravel road system. Unintended impacts to wetlands and private lands may occur when ditches are deepened and run-off diversions are created. Alice to look for best management plans from NH Assoc of Cons Commissions and Stephanie to check with NH DOT for same.

6a. Madgetech Addition Site Plan Review was discussed. No wetlands or significant wildlife habitat is present.

7. Update on DOT surplus riverfront lots

- Map 7; Lot 1 Stephanie Monette –DOT has not made progress on the town’s request yet.
- Map 16; Lot 24 - Surveyors still need to pin point parcel’s corners with respect to adjacent land owners. Ownership to water’s edge still needs confirmation.

8. Friends of the Mink Hills on OHRVs- Update

- Nancy reported on the August 27 “visioning meeting” at CNHRPC. Results of the “cCass VI” landowner survey were briefly summarized, noting that a majority had concerns about OHRV use.
- Sept. 24 “Friends of the Mink Hills” will meet at the Telephone Museum with reps from ATV clubs, F&G, and local conservation officer, Delayne Brown. CNHRP Commission to facilitate the meeting.

9. Wetlands/Forestry Permits- Stephanie Monette- 2 new forestry permits noted.

10. Old Business:

- Michael reviewed the Knoxlands Wetlands Impact Application to DES and reported that the mitigation measures agreed to by the Applicant and their consultants were accurately noted in the Application. These include a Conservation Easement on about 13 acres, a one-time stewardship contribution of \$7,500. and amphibian/reptile diversion fencing across the bike trail. Cynthia of Stone...Consultants will forward a draft CE document for us to work with and plans to attend our October mtg.
- Two Class VI roads, both in the Minks, are being discussed for “abandonment”, Sanborn Trace and Davis Road extension. These will require a Warrant article at Town Mtg.

11. Adjourn 8:22 pm