



WARNER RIVER LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES - DRAFT

Wednesday, 26 August 2020

7:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 819 4320 2558

Password: 381

Appointed WRLAC Representatives present in **bold** (term ends):

Bruce Edwards, Bradford (10-8-2021)

Scott MacLean, Bradford (10-8-2021)

Susan Roman, Webster (10-12-2021)

Ken Milender, Warner (11-26-2021)

Laura Russell, Warner (11-26-2021)

Christopher Spannweitz, Warner (11-26-2021)

Doug Giles, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

Linden Rayton, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

J. Michael Norris, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

David White, Hopkinton (11-26-2021)

Robert Wright, Sutton (05-22-2021)

Andy Jeffrey, Sutton (07-23-2021)

Peter Savickas, Sutton (08-19-2021)

Dan Moran, Webster (09-03-2022)

Invited Guests: None

Members of the Public: Ken Cogswell, Warner Conservation Committee

New and Continuing Business

1. Meeting minutes (February, May, June, July attached).
 - a. Chair's position is the May, June, July minutes are records of unofficial meetings that do not require votes to approve.
 - b. February minutes approved unanimously by ROLL CALL vote.

2. Permit Applications – In Progress. Warner (Intervale), Comet, LLC proposal for 9 Route 103 West (at Exit 9). Warner PB meeting (3 August) has continued the public hearing to September. Applicant has submitted their application for a DES AoT permit. Our newly established Permit Review Subcommittee (minus the full committee vote to approve, thanks to Pete, Chris, and Mike for volunteering to serve) is reviewing the revised site plan review permit application and design drawings and will respond to the PB.
 - a. The subcomm will review the AoT permit application and respond to the DES. A letter is ready to be resubmitted on Sept 2
 - b. Applicant had the engineer revise and update the plan; it was resubmitted to the Warner Planning Board.
 - c. Chair Ken will contact the Warner Conservation Committee to see if they had additional concerns.
 - d. Ken Cogswell noted that the Conservation Committee has similar concerns to WLRAC regarding water management and erosion control like drainage and snow storage. The WCC also feels that

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engineer on the project has been responsive and that the engineer has been looking at WCC's concerns thoroughly.

3. Permit Application – In Progress. Bradford, Naughton Recycling Center, LLC proposal for two properties on Jones Road have been submitted to Bradford Planning Board for Site Plan Review. This application (as it stands) will not be subject to DES permitting. Bradford Conservation Commission has concerns. PB is hosting a Site Walk (25 August) and will likely vote at that time to continue the public hearing to their September meeting.
 - a. It is three parcels of land. One area with several hundred feet of wetland frontage has been used for storage.
 - b. WRLAC sent in a letter on 10 August to express our concerns and to request more information. The reply addressed most concerns and questions.
 - i. The area is outside of the 250' buffer zone.
 - ii. The stored materials are not stored over long periods of time.
 - c. Discussion
 - i. Is there a possibility of any violation of the Shoreline Water Quality Protection Act? Chair Ken is not sure; no work is being proposed within 100' of the wetland.
 - ii. Is there a surface water pollution plan? According to Naughton, no for post construction, yes for erosion and sediment.
 - iii. DES noted that a nearby abutter has expressed concern about threats to Karner blue butterflies.
 - d. The Permit Review Subcommittee will follow up one more time.
 - e. The next site walk is Sept 8.
4. Website Update (Andy): We established a subcommittee to assist Andy with development of our website subcommittee (minus the full committee vote to approve). Thanks to Laura and Dan for volunteering to serve with Andy. Should we prepare a schedule that will establish dates and milestones that we can work towards?
 - a. Andy has framed out the website: <https://www.wrlac.com/> , and it is ready to receive content!
 - i. Possible ideas for content include an events calendar, educational materials, links to related websites and articles. Functionality includes the ability for members of the public to subscribe to the website. There is also potential for a “private” section where the WRLAC could conduct some of its work.
 - ii. Next step will be for the subcommittee to decide on simple content. Once the committee has learned how to curate, create versions, and add the content, we can add more complex content.
 - iii. The goal is to create build a community of people who care about the river.
 - iv. The subcommittee will schedule a meeting for completing and launching the website in the near future.
 - b. Discussion
 - i. Is there a function for allowing the public to make donations? Yes.
 - ii. Including photos (current and historical) and videos would help increase traffic to the website.
 - iii. Another way to engage people would be to include regular updates or newsletters, perhaps with the opportunity for people to leave comments.
5. Fund raising (Pete, Dan): Dan and Peter have the text narratives for their grant application needs, and have been given approval to proceed with applying as they find opportunities. Should we prepare a schedule that will establish dates and funding organizations that we can work towards?

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- a. Dan reported that he has forwarded the text of the grant to New Hampshire Charitable Trust for their review.
 - b. Discussion about a plan for using a grant if we should be lucky enough to be awarded one.
 - i. Possible priority would be the launching, maintaining, and upkeep of the website.
 - ii. A “Warner River Day” event
 - iii. We do have a responsibility to keep donors apprised of our work.
 - iv. Susan will check with NH DoJ’s policies about an organization like WRLAC receiving grants. Dan noted that he has confirmed with NHCF that the WRLAC is eligible to receive funding from the NHCF.
 - v. **COMMITTEE HOMEWORK: Brainstorm ideas for using a grant**
 - c. Our bylaws require us to vote to accept all grants and donations (Article II C, “Monies may only be accepted by majority vote of the Comm.” What’s that doing in there!??). Discussion will ensue about voting to accept/reject grants and donations. Should we amend the bylaws to remove this clause? Should we vote to accept all grants and donations until the end of the year? All this against a backdrop of our quorum troubles. This will be a delicate matter, because we need to have checks and balances (pun intended!) in place. Other LACs do not have this provision.
 - d. Discussion
 - i. Do we have the choice to not accept monies from organizations whose goals are not in line enough with WRLAC’s?
 - ii. Could we remove or revise Article II.C. from the by-laws, and then create a policy that is informed by the policies of other groups similar to WRLAC?
 - e. MOTION: Susan moved to strike the phrase “majority voted” from Article II.C. Dan seconded.
 - f. Discussion
 - i. Perhaps the donation part of the website could include a disclaimer that monies received are to be used at the sole discretion of the WRLAC.
 - ii. **Susan and Linden will be a subcommittee to conduct further research.**
 - g. ROLL CALL VOTE: Amend the by-laws to delete the following phrase: “monies may only be accepted by a majority”.
 - i. 10 in favor (Ken, Susan, Mike, Chris, Laura, Scott, Dan, Andy, Linden, Dave)
 - ii. 1 against (Pete)
 1. Pete would prefer more stringency in the process of accepting monies in order to more easily identify and address possible undue influence and conflicts of interest from potential donors.
6. Warner River Corridor Management Plan (Chair).
- a. Committee Reminder - Draft Plan submitted by Central NH Planning 31 March 2020. Comments received from DES 15 June. Central NH has begun the revision. Chair will contact our five ConComms to provide comments as well. Chair has reached out to Bradford CC and Warner CC for their thoughts, and will work his way to the downstream towns. Chair was warmly received by Bradford CC (08/18/2020) to introduce the LAC, review our role, and discuss the upcoming Naughton Recycling site plan review applications. BCC had some comments that will need to be incorporated into the revised corridor management plan.
 - i. Bradford CC would like the plan to note that periodically the Warner River backs up into Melvin Brook, creating a reverse flow into Lake Massasecum.
 - b. Chair to begin reaching out to the five towns’ planning boards for their review and comment as well.

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7. Warner ARM Proposal Status (Chair).
 - a. Full ARM application (for DES funding replacement of one Ballard Brook culvert below Red Chimney Road in Warner) is in progress (Warner CC lead with F&G, WRLAC, EMD, and DPW). Letter of support has been submitted.
 - b. Chair will request Reps forward each towns' ARM list to us for review and cataloging.
8. New Business
 - a. Town forms – Volunteers are needed to contact selectboards and other town boards to find out what it would take to make sure WRLAC is part of their checklist.
 - i. Pete: Sutton
 - ii. Dan: Webster
 - iii. Scott: Bradford
 - b. Junkyard in Warner – Selectboards need to know.
 - c. Of interest to the Committee: Union Leader article about brook trout in Bartlett Brook: [Baby Brook Trout Make Way Through Culverts Hours After Stream Restoration.](#)

Adjourn – 8:50 PM

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