



Town of Warner, New Hampshire  
Conservation Commission  
Wednesday, June 1, 2022

June Meeting Minutes  
Warner Town Hall 7:00 pm  
In Person Meeting

Warner Conservation Commission (WCC) members present: Alice Chamberlin, Jody Sloane (Alternate), Jackie Germain (Alternate), Nancy Martin, Susi von Oettingen, Michael Amaral, Ken Cogswell, Doug Allen

General Public: Richard Cook, Ben Nugent, George Embley

Note, Zoom meeting was not able to be started due to lack of necessary equipment at the Town Hall.

Meeting began at 7:00 pm.

#### Agenda

1. Stream Monitoring: Ben Nugent-NH Fish & Game, George Embley – 11<sup>th</sup> year monitoring the Warner watershed to assess brook trout communities and their watershed. Seeking to continue the momentum raised by volunteers to monitor the tributaries for brook trout. Considering implementing a Rapid Biological Assessment program to look at different physical parameters of the stream. Do it over time should be able to detect if changes occur within the watershed and/or tributaries. Have reached out to Bradford, interest generated there. Depending on level of interest will put together a protocol, training, and equipment. Have years of data, now seeking to assess impacts of climate change and development on the watershed. Would include water quality testing, macroinvertebrate (bug) surveys (sort, ID, count - have visuals for identification) to check the water quality. Suggestion – select a stream or two and a community of volunteers to survey WQ, macroinvertebrates on a regular basis. Select streams that people are familiar with to get volunteers. Suggest Willow Brook, Bartlett Brook, Ballard Brook.

Ballard Brook –won an ARM grant application in 2020 to address first culvert on Red Chimney Road (lower crossing). Hoping to get landowner's agreement to allow an easement to install a new box culvert.

Suggestion – look at a brook that is more vulnerable to threats (flooding, development) if there are interested volunteers.

Jody Sloane volunteered to coordinate the Warner volunteers. Nancy will put a notice provided by Ben and George calling for volunteers for monitoring brooks. Susi will coordinate with the Bradford Conservation Commission and the Lake Massasecum Improvement Association.

Suggestion to keep a set of water quality equipment locally. Possibility to look for funds to acquire nets and water quality equipment. NH Fish and Game should be able to QA/QC the data collected and analyze the data over time.

2. Blue Moon Berry Farm Conservation: Rich Cook. Have an appraisal for the easement on the 109 acres (no buildings) Have begun raising funds, the owners are giving a bargain sale on the property. Seeking \$30,000 from the Warner Conservation Commission (WCC) to complete the funds necessary to purchase the easement. Will submit a grant application to LCHIP and need to raise half of the request from other sources in order to do so. Have been invited to submit the application to LCHIP, would not know if they received the award until November or December, 2022. Funds from the Warner Conservation Commission would not be needed until closing (early 2023). Moved and subsequently approved to fund Five Rivers with \$30,000 towards the easement of the Blue Moon Berry Farm and the Town will hold a tertiary Executory Interest.
3. Approve May Minutes - Approved
4. Groundwater Project – Alice will be going in front of the Planning Board to seek a volunteer for the committee. Suggestion if no volunteer, Alice will report to the Planning Board periodically to update on the development of an ordinance. Has a volunteer from MadgeTech, seeking someone from a business at exit 9. Getting material to put up on the website on groundwater protection. All the meetings will be public and information posted on the Town’s website. Also attended a conference that DES organized on groundwater management and protection.
5. *Taking Action for Wildlife*-Update – Jody Sloane – Developing content for trail signs for 1 mile loop trail, going to be making up QR codes when content is complete. Request to place content on WCC website, will work with website manager to develop the page for the information. Met with USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service staff for suitable plantings, including saplings, shrubs. Offered to help design a program for mowing. Still need source materials for the kiosk, will provide a list of needed materials and will reach out to Warner contractors/builders. Kiosk would have info about the trail and Chandler Reservation.
6. Mink Hills Recreation Study Committee – Update – Nancy Martin. Developed a map that describes the state of sections of the Class VI roads in the Minks.
7. Economic Development Advisory Committee- Community Center/Child Care – Boys and Girls Club of Concord is planning on opening up a child care facility in the CAP building. The child care facility will be small in the Head Start space.
8. Agricultural Committee Update – Nothing to report.
9. Housing Committee – Nothing to report. Jody and Jackie will be representing the WCC cooperatively.
10. Forestry/Wetlands Permits – No timber permits were posted publicly. Two wetlands permits.
11. Communications – Conservation Easement bulletin from the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.
12. Adjourned at 8:35.