



Town of Warner, New Hampshire
Conservation Commission
Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Minutes
Warner Town Hall 7:00 pm
In Person Meeting
Zoom Access

Warner Conservation Commission (WCC) members present: Alice Chamberlin, Susi von Oettingen, Michael Amaral, Jackie Germain, Ken Cogswell, Jody Sloane, Phil Stockwell, Scott Warren, Doug Allen, and Nancy Martin, Chair.

No members of the public were present in person. Zoom option was available, no members of the public were present.

Note: Zoom meeting was initiated at 7:04.

1. Approve January WCC Minutes – January 2023 minutes approved.
2. WCC Vote to accept Collins Donated Land- Map 9; Lot 28 – Legal advice to ensure there are no liens on the property. Title search is currently being implemented. Need a formal vote by the WCC to accept the property. A motion was made and passed to accept the land donation of 16 acres, Parcel Map 9, Lot 28 on North Village Road owned by Ruth Collins, pending results of the title search. On February 6, the Nancy Martin, chair will make a presentation to the Planning Board as requested by the Town attorney.
3. Groundwater Project- Planning Board update on Draft Zoning Amendment for Town Meeting - <https://warner.nh.us/notices/> - Alice Chamberlin. On Monday, January 30, the Planning Board approved 5 to 0 to move the amendment to the Town Ballot for a Town vote on March 14, 2023.
4. Properties for Auction – Nancy Martin, Chair. The WCC has a verbal agreement with Central NH Regional Planning Commission (Regional Planning Commission) to develop the Natural Resources Inventory. There was a suggestion to review the properties for auction for importance for natural resources conservation. The Regional Planning Commission will rank the properties according to a number of criteria of importance to the Town, will score and rank the properties and create a map of the properties' natural resource values. The Regional Planning Commission will create a story map describing the properties and their values to the Town. The cost of the property assessments is estimated at approximately \$10,000. The WCC will invite staff from the Regional Planning Commission to the next meeting to describe the proposed ranking of the properties and story map.
5. *Taking Action for Wildlife-*
 - a. Chill Out at Chandler – Jody Sloane. Was a “pop-up” event. Had approximately 50 participants. The hill was groomed to allow for sledding, people also snowshoed, and visited the QR coded nature trail.

- b. Nature Trail – QR codes are up and work, need cell phones to read the QR codes. Getting good feedback regarding the information provided by the QR codes. One of the Taking Action for Wildlife team members will be meeting with Simonds School Principal, Tim Stokes to encourage school use of the Nature Trail. For a virtual visit of the Nature Trail (aka 2022 Woods Walk) visit Chandler Reservation [website 2022 Woods Walk](#).
 - c. Big Tree Program – no updates. Will request assistance from the Taking Action for Wildlife Team
6. Mink Hills Recreation Study Committee- Update, Nancy Martin. The report subcommittee has provided the draft report to the Regional Planning Commission for assistance in readying the draft report for distribution. The recommendation subcommittee will provide their recommendations once the report is completed. The draft final report and recommendations will be presented to the public for feedback within the next few months.
 - a. Economic Development Advisory Committee-Update, - Nancy Martin. Most activity centered around the Energy Committee. Had an energy audit for the Community Center. There may be a meeting with Concord Hospital for a possible satellite facility at exit 9. Another potential project may be an audio tour for Warner. The project could create a map of a walking tour of Warner for use to promote tourism.
7. Agricultural Committee- Update - Michael Amaral: Discussion by local farmers about their plans for a farm expansion in Warner, the farm may be focused on a root and storage crop CSA, fruit trees, and meat. Discussion included to support work force housing for farmers.
8. Zoning Amendments – Groundwater, Zoning Definitions. Nancy Martin. Three zoning amendments came before the Planning Board on January 30, 2023. Much discussion about the definition of short term rentals. The Planning Board notice regarding the definitions is on the [Town's website](#).
9. Forestry/Wetlands Permits – Ken Cogswell – One intent to cut was posted and a DES permit for a property off of Waldron Hill Road.
10. New Business – Nancy Martin. Eversource has cut vegetation bordering Willow Brook (See February 1, 2023 email and photos from Ken Cogswell to Nancy Martin). Will reach out to Eversource to request revegetation and possibly hay bales to reduce the likelihood of erosion. The WCC will investigate the regulations associated with shoreland protection of public waters. See the [NH fact sheet](#) regarding shoreland protection.
11. Communications – none to report.
12. Adjourned at 8:16 pm.