

TOWN OF WARREN
PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 4, 2018 - 7:00PM
Warren Town Center – 4 Cornwall Road

PRESENT: Susan Bates, John Papp, Kelly Tobin; Jocelyn Ayer, NHCOC; P&Z Commission members: Robyn Kasler; ZEO, Stacey Sefcik; Secretary, Brenda Zampaglione
GUESTS: Craig Nelson, First Selectman, John Favreau, Owner of Warren Town Center
ABSENT: Howard Lethbridge

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. All members present were seated for the meeting. The proceedings were digitally recorded, and copies are available in the Land Use Office.

2. Promoting Warren's Town Center, (Agri)Tourism, & Small Business roundtable discussion with Jocelyn Ayer, Community & Economic Development Director of the Northwes Hills Council of Governments and resident farm business owners, homebase business owners, and owners of business properties in town.

The meeting was turned over to Ms. Ayer.

Ms. Ayer gave brief current results of Online Resident Survey to date relating to tonight's topic. As of when the presentation was prepared, there have been @300 responses. Data included, Population Projections, Housing Affordability, Home Sale Prices and Commuting Patterns. Audience suggestions included, more affordable housing options, having a sense of community, more childcare options, healthcare options, i.e., pediatrician, maintaining a town center.

Interactive voting cards were distributed to the audience members. Voting took place on the kinds of goals and actions which the residents want in the POCD. Ms. Ayer presented a variety of goals and actions to be voted on that residents would want to spend time and money on. Audience members can choose one or all of the choices shown in the presentation.

Audience members broke into small focus groups of 5-6 people for a total of 3 groups (based on audience attendance at @ 20). Focus groups conversed for @ 20 minutes. Topics of these groups were shared with the Sub-committee and Ms. Ayer and include:

- Promote (Agri)Tourism (don't let agricultural character get spoiled)
- Pursue cooperative effort with neighboring towns to promote town attractions
- Create Play areas that would attract young families, i.e., playground, basketball court
- Offer a tax incentive for new businesses and old businesses
- Promote farms, get locally grown foods into our schools
- Streamline permitting for businesses
- Create a local Chamber of Commerce for businesses, i.e., LABA
- Promote Warren to NYC, develop a promotional fact sheet, place ads in social media, newspapers
- Hire a Marketing Director to get the word out on Warren in a targeted marketing strategy
- Get internet and cell phone reception
- Create a Farm link for young families to see how much farmland is available in Warren
- Farms get together to do Community Supported Agriculture (Farmer Co-op)
- Leasing town owned land to farmers
- Tax incentives for farms
- Zoning Regulations that allow a diversity of farm uses, i.e., music, events

All ideas were shared by the Focus groups with Ms. Ayer. Ms. Ayer then wrote all ideas on poster paper and encouraged audience members to physically check off what their priorities were. Those ranking the highest of priorities will be given consideration moving forward with our 10 year plan. Highest ranked was improvement of cell/internet/fiber optic service and tax incentives for businesses and farms.

MOTION: Mr. Papp, second, Ms. Tobin to **TABLE** the September 10, 2018 Meeting minutes;

APPROVED: UNANIMOUSLY ABSTENTIONS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

3. ADJOURNMENT:

The Subcommittee agreed to table the rest of the agenda and to adjourn the meeting at 8:40PM, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Zampaglione

**Brenda Zampaglione
Land Use Secretary**