

TOWN OF WARREN
PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 23, 2018 - 7:00PM
Warren Town Hall – 50 Cemetery Road

PRESENT: Susan Bates, Kelly Tobin; First Selectman, Craig Nelson, ZEO, Stacey Sefcik; Members of the Warren Land Trust, Rebecca Neary, Tim Angevine, David Schneiderbeck, Waltraud Tammen, Elizabeth Chandler, Nancy Morse; Secretary, Brenda Zampaglione
ABSENT: Howard Lethbridge

1. CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM. All members were present and seated for the meeting. The proceedings were digitally recorded, and copies are available in the Land Use Office.

2. DISCUSSION WITH WARREN LAND TRUST REGARDING PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE, SCENIC FEATURES AND OTHER RELATED PRIORITIES.

Rebecca Neary, President, presented on behalf of the Warren Land Trust (WLT). Explaining their goal is preserving rural character and land conservation in town with mindful and thoughtful development with the focus on accepting land donations which meet the WLT criteria. Increase public access for outdoor recreation. Changes in farmland and agricultural uses in town are dwindling, that is an area of increased awareness and concern. Also undeveloped land but not legally preserved land which is Waterbury Water Company, no changes have been made in that land and the status has not changed over 10 years, but unlikely to change over the next 10 years.

Focus on land conservation which is fulfilling the WLT mission and criteria which has high conservation value, scenic value, natural resources, scenic resources, open spaces and connectivity. Prioritize areas for conservation – natural places. Special interest in preserving and supporting other organizations not only land but water and air quality. Expand outreach and education on why it is important to preserve the land. Support and actively continue to support the town with compliance on Planning & Zoning and Inland Wetlands regulations. WLT would also support the town in creating a fund for open space and farm land purchase. The importance of View Shed preservation is a key point to consider in addition to supporting farm lands and agricultural usage by accepting agricultural conservation easements and also by connecting farmers with other resources, i.e., funding by state, to preserve farmland in town. Public access and recreation on conservation land, increasing public access to preserve, maintaining and expanding trail network and marking properties with public access and trails more clearly. An interest in fostering trails connectivity within and beyond Warren borders and the possibility of working with other land trusts to connect trails augmenting recreation that is already available. Also discussed was the need and desire for cooperation and communication with the town to obtain grant money. Furthermore, a discussion on the possibility of ridgeline protection measures, perhaps, on a voluntary basis. Mentioned was a preference for a fee-in-lieu of an actual open space offering if proposal does not meet WLT criteria.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

a. July 9, 2018

MOTION: Susie Bates Second, John Papp to **APPROVE** the July 9, 2018 **SPECIAL** Meeting minutes;
APPROVED: UNANIMOUSLY ABSTENTIONS: NONE MOTION CARRIED

4. STATUS UPDATE ON INFORMATIONAL POSTCARD/RESIDENT INPUT SURVEY.

Stacey Sefcik gave the Subcommittee an update on the Postcard and Survey. Postcards to be received 7/24. All will be stamped and mailed to all Warren residents. Susie Bates volunteered to stamp cards. Kelly Tobin volunteered to bring postcards to Cornwall Post Office. There will be an email blast; in addition the postcards will be available at the Town Hall and Library. A possible link will also be loaded onto the website in addition to a Facebook post.

5. STATUS UPDATE ON COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM.

A draft of the final flyer was received from Glenn Chandler. Still some open issues to be finalized, i.e., babysitting and location, senior bus transportation.

Glenn Chandler and Jocelyn Ayer are collaborating on getting the required maps for the meeting.

6. STATUS UPDATE ON UPCOMING SPECIAL TOPIC FORUMS.

An invitation was extended to the Town of Warren Affordable Housing Committee to join us at a Topic meeting. John Favreau is amenable to holding the October 4th meeting at Warren Town Center, 4 Cornwall Road. The Town Center meeting date was moved to after the Community Issues Forum meeting (9/22) in case any other issues come up, in addition, it will give Jocelyn Ayers time to put all of her data together for the Subcommittee.

Stacey Sefcik asked if there were any other meeting topics of interest to the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee agreed that Broadband and Cellular issues need to be addressed.

John Papp recapped the discussion from earlier in the meeting of the Warren Land Trust.

- Attract people to town and how to keep them here
- Agritourism to help draw people to town; make trails and resources information more accessible
- Create a small business association for the Town of Warren to use as a resource with town projects, with the possibility of using these small business owners who live in town for these projects. This will help support the businesses and the town.

7. OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE.

None to discuss.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

The Subcommittee agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:25PM, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Zampaglione

**Brenda Zampaglione
Land Use Secretary**