

**Town of Warren
Planning Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Monday July 13, 2020**

Members Present: Jim Sanford, Mike Ketchel, Dan Raddock, Randy Graves, Camilla Behn and Mike Bridgewater.

Others Present: Jenny Faillace and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call the meeting to order, 7:30 pm.

NOTE: this meeting was held electronically via Google Meet.

Regular Meeting:

1. Interview with Jennifer Faillace to fill the vacancy left by Alison Duckworth.
2. Comments/Conversation about parts of the LUDR update?
3. New/other business – MRVPD report, new trail proposed that includes land in Warren.

The meeting came to order at 7:32 pm.

The first item of business was a “meet & greet & get to know” Jenny Faillace who has expressed an interest in the vacant Planning Commission seat formerly held by Alison Duckworth. The PC members all introduced themselves and spoke about their tenure on the Commission. Ms. Faillace gave a brief background history and a bit about herself and her interest in what the PC does. [her letter of interest had all the details]. After a bit of conversation, the PC members voted unanimously to forward her name to the Select Board to be appointed to the Planning Commission.

Ms. Robbins asked if she could share some items with the PC as she thought they should be made and aware of them and would be interested. She told them about the proposed “loop” addition to the Mad River Path that is primarily in Waitsfield on Yestermorrow’s property but that it does cross over into Warren on the Noel property. The Noel’s have yet to sign an agreement and the project is still in its preliminary stages.

The next item was about an inquiry from Ms. Wade about permitting for some temporary tents to allow for physical distancing up at the resort for the ski season. This is also very preliminary as she had no information about sizes or precise locations around the Gatehouse.

And lastly, with the stream/river bank buffer ordinance having been a recent topic of conversation with the Select Board, Ms. Robbins shared a recent request to cut some trees in the river buffer. Though the argument was put forth that several trees had the beginnings of die back and that their removal would aid in the flourishing of other existing species of trees, the regulation is very clear about there being no removal of vegetation even if it improves the health of other trees.

Mr. Raddock reported that the MRVPD had created a sub-committee three people to identify and attempt to quantify certain valley indicators such as the health of the environment, mental health, jobs and housing. He said he was one of the three on the committee and would report back on its progress. Mr. Bridgewater brought up that he felt some maintenance of the Main Street Improvement Project was needed and in discussion it was concluded that the Select Board would have to ask the Road Crew what their assessment was and how to accomplish it. Ms. Faillace commented on the telecommunications section of the proposed LUDR update and said she happened to come upon Waterbury’s regulations which seemed more “robust” and that we might want to revisit ours. The PC asked for an updated timeline form PlaceSense and to also update where we stood with the budget and payment to them.

