

Town of Warren  
Conservation Commission  
Zoom Mtg  
January 12, 2021

On Zoom

Present: Jito Coleman, Amy Polaczyk, Damon Reed, Carolyn Schipa, Jim Edgecomb, Kate Wanner, George Schenk

Meeting called to order at 7:33 pm

- 1) December Selectboard Mtg
  - o Planning commission is still determining if they will rely on State data or map from PlaceSense (PS) however, the source of the PS data is unknown and funding for PlaceSense has run out.
  - o Language presented by Jamey Fidel has also not been embraced and the planning commission is struggling to come to consensus.
  - o Discussion focused on how to move forward to embody the town plan in the zoning regulations.
  - o Deadline for the zoning changes is likely sometime this summer. Jito to reach-out for this info.
- 2) Annual Report/Town Meeting Presentation/Corridor info packet
  - o To address the CC vision asked for at the 2020 town meeting: Put together a 15-minute Zoom presentation to support CC-suggested approach to zoning language as well as beef-up the annual report. Jito to ask Cindy Jones the suggested vehicle to use.
  - o Discussion of high-priority conservation targets, where they are and how to preserve them. Current use and easements may be more attractive approaches to conservation given taxes are not retained by the town. This approach changes the focus to reaching out to landowners from working through zoning laws. Creative solutions to support farmers and landowners to incorporate conservation into current practices.
  - o Discussion of the vision to support town presentation planning and organization.
  - o 2 action items: Presentation to be posted on YouTube to provide at Town meeting and to new homeowners & providing a compendium of documents that summarize our vision for new landowners.
- 3) UVM
  - o Fund a grad student to look at land conservation. Need to write a pre-proposal - ideas:
  - o Effects on tax base were considered but this would be challenging due to the multiple avenues that could be pursued.
  - o It was suggested to use Adirondack Park approach.
  - o Identify parcels that overlap primary, secondary and tertiary conservation targets. Parcels in corridors, Ag lands, etc
  - o Kate suggested converting WCC webpage to a resource for land owners. This could be a focus on Grad Student work as well.

Amy Polaczyk 1/13/21 1:55 AM

**Comment:** Jito to reach-out for this info.  
@jitocoleman@gmail.com  
\_Assigned to Jito Coleman\_

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- Jito will suggest these and see which are interesting to the grad school.

**4) Next meeting February 9 7:30pm, Kate to send zoom link. (suggested but not confirmed in mtg)**

Meeting concluded at 9:10pm

cc: Selectboard, PC, DRB, MRVPD, Waitsfield CC, Fayston CCweb, post