

**Town of Warren
Planning Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Monday February 8, 2021**

Members Present: Mike Bridgewater, Jennifer Faillace, Randy Graves, Mike Ketchel, Dan Raddock, and Jim Sanford (Chair).

Others Present: Ruth Robbins (ZA), Rod Francis (PlaceSense), Brandy Saxton (PlaceSense), and Carol Chamberlin (Recording Secretary).

Agenda:

1. Report from Dan & Ruth re: meeting with MRVTV
2. Ruth to provide update from Brandy, including suggestions re: MRVTV
3. Report from Mike K. re: PC Website
4. New/Other business

The meeting came to order at 7:30 pm.

MRVTV

Ruth explained that, after meeting with Tony at MRVTV it was planned to have the PC members each compose a short recording explaining one or two of the new zoning districts. It was agreed that this is the most likely aspect of the new LUDRs to pique interest and raise questions. These videos will be broadcast on MRVTV and posted to the LURD web page. Brandy suggested that each person write something up and send it to her for any needed text editing/clarification before they made the recording.

Ruth also noted that MRVTV will accept and post recordings of PC meetings; the usual protocol is to keep meetings available for three months in the local board meetings section of the TV station's web site. After that, they are archived but still available.

Ruth will send out a sign-up spreadsheet with a list of zoning districts.

PlaceSense Updates

Brandy reported that Jens Hilke and Jamey Fidel met with the PlaceSense team, and had a lengthy conversation about forest block mapping, conflicts between different protections outlined for Meadowlands (houses to be placed on edge of field, wildlife corridors often designated along edge of field), and the desire to protect wildlife corridors where they are known to cross roadways.

Jens had noted that the crossing data mapped by the Conservation Commission is comprehensive, and Brandy and Rod agreed that some protection for the corridors might be built into the Regulations. Once they receive further recommendations from Jens, they will send some maps to the PC for evaluation.

Jens and Jamey would like to see more development guidance related to wildlife habitat and corridors, but Brandy pointed out that establishing design standards for use in reviewing lot development are difficult to draft/enforce for such big-picture types of protection. Rod pointed out that other protections already provided for in the Regulations (wetlands, waterways, slopes) provide some conservation areas for wildlife as well.

PlaceSense has compiled and forwarded responses to the points raised by Peter Monte and Virginia Roth. They will do the same for Kaziah Haviland's housing comments once Ruth forwards them.

Once there is a contract in place, Brandy will put together a schedule outlining the steps needed and path to be followed for the completion of the LUDR adoption process. This will be available for the February 22 or March 8 meeting.

PC Website

Mike K. reported that the web site is in place, and he has forwarded the link to the group. As it is decided which information to present, he and Ruth will get information posted. The videos from each PC member will be posted when available. The videos will likely be hosted on a YouTube channel.

There was a slight snag with authorization for getting the domain name in place, but things are in motion to have approval from a Town official provided to Vickery Hill.

Other Business

Jen Lavoie from ACCD had informed Ruth that an RFQ is not necessary for the grant that was awarded, but that it is required that an inquiry be made of two consultants. Jen had noted that an email will serve this purpose. Ruth will draft an email and have Dan approve it before sending it to Landworks in Middlebury as the second consultant, with PlaceSense already notified of the grant award.

Ruth will contact CVRPC and have them draft a River Corridor map.

Camilla and Randy will ensure that the Selectboard is updated on both the draft LUDRs and the timeline/outreach moving forward.

Ruth will reach out again to Margo at Sugarbush; it was agreed that a deadline should be set for her to provide feedback/ask questions regarding the LUDRs. This will be set once there is a schedule available from PlaceSense.

Jim will draft an introductory section for the web site. It was noted that this section should emphasize that the draft LUDRs should be read for full understanding of sections that interest people. Looking at Londonderry's five steps for getting involved may provide useful guidance when composing an introduction for Warren.

MOTION: Mike K. made a motion to accept the minutes of meetings dating from October 12, 2020 through January 25, 2021 as presented. The motion was seconded by Jennifer. All were in favor.

Jennifer noted that a video regarding the PUD process changes would be useful, and offered to create one for this topic as well as a district-related video.

Randy cautioned against providing too much information before receiving questions and having a better sense of which LUDR sections have created community interest. Ruth noted that Joshua Schwartz had advised to keep the information presented of a more general nature, but to point people to the actual draft document for details and clarification. It was reiterated that, because of the inability to hold in-person gatherings to present

and discuss the new Regulations, the media outreach being planned is due to the current COVID-related restrictions on public meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary

Planning Commission

Camilla Behn date

Mike Bridgewater date

Jennifer Faillace date

Randy Graves date

Mike Ketchel date

Dan Raddock date

Jim Sanford date