

**TOWN OF WARREN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 12, 2004**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Clayton Cormier, Chair; John Donaldson, Jim Sanford, Don LaHaye and Lisa Miserendino.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Margo Wade, Erin Russell Story, Glen Thomas, Tara Hamilton, Conservation Committee; Steve Kimball, USFS; Kinny Connell, Steve Dollmeyer, Brook Road Residents; Shannon M. Hill, DRB/PC Assistant.

- AGENDA:**
- 1) 7:30 PM Call to Order
  - 2) Sign Minutes from Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - 3) Warren Village Traffic Calming Planning (30 min)
  - 4) Town Plan Update Discussion with the Conservation Committee & Forest Service, Chapters 8 Serving the Community (1 hour)
  - 5) Other Business
    - a) Review Town Plan Update Mass Mailing
    - b) Discuss Municipal Planning Grant
    - c) Review 2003 PC Report

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Cormier called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

**II. SIGNING OF MINUTES**

**a) Signing of minutes**

**MOTION by Mr. Cormier, seconded by Mr. Donaldson, to approve the December 8, 2003 meeting minutes. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

**MOTION by Mr. Cormier, seconded by Mr. LaHaye, to approve the December 22, 2003 meeting minutes. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

**III. WARREN VILLAGE TRAFFIC CALMING PLANNING**

The board reviewed the updated traffic calming plans received from LandWorks. The plans included the following updates:

- reduce road width in village to 18' and use the rest of the existing road for pedestrian and bicycle lane
- add cross walks on Brook Road where the path from the school intersects the road
- replace existing large lights with historic reproduction pedestrian scale lights

- install a yield sign at the intersection with Flat Iron Road and Main Street to prevent accidents

Ms. Miserendino expressed concern that there is no traffic calming south of the village off Route 100. The board decided to leave the plan as it is until the public meeting on traffic calming and see what the residents of the southern part of the village would like.

The board discussed the trail from the school to Brook Road. The tax map as well as the Traffic Calming Plan shows an easement where the path lies. Ms. Wade indicated that the easement was for the municipal wastewater system and did not allow for pedestrian use. At the board request, Ms. Hill stated she would look up the easement. There was no objections to the cross walk across on the Brook Road where the path comes down from the school.

Ms. Connell mentioned that the stormwater coming down Fuller Hill Road has caused erosion problems in the Groom's yard. She suggested that if any work was being completed in that area that the stormwater problem be looked into.

Ms. Connell noted that the Brook Road residents would be submitting written comments to the PC and Selectbaord.

#### **IV. TOWN PLAN UPDATE – CHAPTER 3 & 8**

Steve Kimball of the United States Forest Service (USFS) came before the board to suggest changes to the Town Plan. He explained that the GMNF is currently revising their plan which they do every 10 to 15 years. He believed it would be beneficial for both the town and the USFS if the plans had similar goals and objectives for acquisition and management of forest land. One thing the USFS has been struggling with during their plan revisions is which lands to have as managed versus wilderness. A managed forest would be maintained by the USFS and may include some work completed by machinery while wilderness would be left as is and would not permit any motorized vehicles, bikes or chainsaws. He requested the PC give some thought to the following questions:

- Which areas of the USFS in Warren would the town like to see managed and/or wilderness?
- What would the town like to see the USFS do for water quality (more restoration, monitoring, etc.)?
- What level and where recreational opportunities should be made available to the public?
- Should the Stetson Hollow Road be decommissioned or maintained?
- Does the town support the USFS acquiring more land in Warren?
- Does the town still support the USFS purchasing land outside the proclamation boundary?

Mr. Kimball requested special attention be given to the question of wilderness versus working forests. They are currently working on zoning the forest into different management categories and would appreciate the towns input.

Ms. Connell thought it was logical to extend the Proclamation Area to include all lands within the Forest Reserve, since these lands have limited development potential anyway. She further recommended that the USFS and the PC look at criteria such as slope, soils, habitat, headwater stream protection, etc. when deciding where to extend the proclamation area. Mr. Kimball noted that a portion of the Northfield Ridge was not within the Proclamation Area.

The Warren Conservation Committee came before the board to recommend changes to Chapter 3 of the Town Plan. They submitted written comments that Ms. Hill will incorporate into the Chapter. The Planning Commission will review the recommended Changes made to Chapter 3 in February.

## **V. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **a) Review Town Plan Update Mass Mailing**

The board reviewed a draft letter that Ms. Hill wrote to send to all Warren tax payers. The intention of the letter is to inform tax payers that the Planning Commission is working on updating the Town Plan. The board approved of the letter and recommended Ms. Hill mention that the PC is looking for a board member.

### **b) Discuss Municipal Planning Grant**

Ms. Hill stated that she would like the Planning Commissions opinion on using some of the 2004 Municipal Planning Grant to purchase mapping software for her use (ESRI, ArcView). The software could be used to update the maps in the back of the town plan as well as used by Ms. Hill to collect data from other agencies to help with the town plan update. Ms. Hill is very familiar with the mapping software she is suggesting the Planning Commission purchase. The board was supportive of the idea and requested Ms. Hill write up a budget proposal.

On a similar subject, Mr. Cormier explained that Mrs. Robinson had contacted him looking for support from the commission on a mapping project she is proposing. He explained to Mrs. Robinson that he did not know enough about the alternative options or the project she is proposing to support it. Ms. Hill noted that no one board member can speak for the board and that if Ms. Robinson would like support from the Planning Commission on a project than she should come before the board and explain her project.

### **c) Review 2003 PC Report**

The board reviewed the Draft 2003 report Ms. Hill wrote. They suggested multiple changes which Ms. Hill will incorporate and redistribute to the board for their approval.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Mr. Coromier, seconded by Mr. LaHaye to adjourn the meeting. VOTE: unanimous; motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon M. Hill  
DRB/PC Assistant

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

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Clayton Cormier, Chair (date)

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John Donaldson, V Chair (date)

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Donald La Haye (date)

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Lisa Miserendino (date)

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Jim Sanford (date)