



Town of Warner, New Hampshire

Conservation Commission

Warner Town Hall

May 6, 2026, 7:00 pm

In Person Meeting

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85055760896>

Passcode: 1234 Meeting ID: 850 5576 0896

Warner Conservation Commission (WCC) Members present: Jackie Germain, Michael Amaral, Ken Cogswell, Doug Allen, Susi von Oettingen, Nancy Martin, Chair.

Members of the public present: Bill Clark, Chair, Wilmot Conservation Commission, Barbara Marty, Abigail Strauss, Laura Russel, Eric Buck, Bob Bauer, Gary Young, Tim Blagden

Via Zoom: None

Meeting began at 6:59.

1. Approve April Minutes – Section of the minutes that discussed the easements that Michael Amaral monitored needed a few edits. Minutes were accepted with corrections noted.
2. Kearsarge Mountain Bike Trail-Update. Nancy Martin summarized the walk that members of the Conservation Commission participated in on April 16. Issues raised by the WCC members included potential impacts on wildlife in the areas where the trail was less close to the road, protection of historical sites (CCC structures), the necessary analyses needed to avoid or minimize impacts to rare wildlife species, safety issues relative to bikes on the toll road, emergency management response in areas further from the road, parking issues (limited spaces requiring parking reservations). Bill Clark raised concerns about the trail and highlighted the other trails already available to mountain bikers. Bob Bower, abutter to the State Park and near the proposed mountain bike trail, raised concerns about spider trails (illegal trails) that may be developed should the official trail be constructed. Abigail Strauss spoke up and agreed with the comments made by the public and the WCC, and asked if the WCC has been told what the review process is and what the timeline is. At this time, the WCC does not have any information regarding the timeline or specifics of the process. Note, the New England Mountain Bike Association proposal is available on the WCC town website.

A suggestion was made to discuss the proposed mountain bike trail with state representatives to discuss the proposed and the Town's concerns regarding the proposed trail.

3. WCC Member Recruitment – The WCC is seeking additional members to fill the place of recent member resignations.
4. Holmes/McBride Easement Boundary-Derek Lick – Information from Mr. Lick representing Mr. Holmes with changes in the easement boundary was sent to WCC members. Nancy Martin received a supplementary documentation to the easement changes for WCC members to review. Recommendation that the McBrides have an opportunity to review and that the WCC have a copy of the new map for the WCC records.

5. Dan Morrissey, Chair for the Warner River Local Advisory Committee – Mr. Morrissey has offered to give a Surface Water presentation to the WCC and possibly later the Town.
6. An Invitation to Wonder- WCC Public Screening this summer, Nancy Martin viewed the movie and wondered if a screening could be combined with a later presentation by Mr. Morrissey on surface waters. Nancy Martin will reach out to Mr. Morrissey and ask if this would be of interest to him.
7. ZBA -Exit 9 Conservation Easement & Catch Housing – So far no further information on the Catch Housing project.
8. Forestry/Wetlands permits – One permit extension for a cordwood cut (small intent to cut).
9. New Business –
 - a. In an email conversation between Barbara Marty and Nancy Martin, there is a conceptual project on a privately owned property for one house. Planning Board recommended that a survey be done to determine whether the property will meet the conditions for the Conservation Zone. Nancy Martin visited the site to review the natural environment of the property (forest and stream). The property is abutted on both sides by town-owned properties.
 - b. Easement monitoring – several outstanding easements need to be monitored. Carter-Kerrick easement was completed by Ken Cogswell.
 - c. Davis Road vehicle incident – a vehicle drove down the Class VI portion of Davis Road and became stuck in a deep gully and was pulled out the following day. Warner Police Susi von Oettingen will draft a letter to the Selectboard with photos included to ask what can be done to prevent future incidents.
10. Communications –
 - a. The WCC received a letter from HEB engineers discussing the National Environmental Policy Act review and describing the proposed rail trail in the vicinity of the Barbara Annis Roundabout and Waterloo. HEB is requesting if the WCC had any comments related to water resources or other natural resources of interest to the Town.
 - b. Nancy Martin received a notice on behalf of the Eversource Energy's proposed brush cutting and maintenance of non-compliant woody vegetation with the 317 Distribution Line right of way.
 - c. Received a letter from Ausbon Sargent thanking the Town of Warner For assisting in the conservation easement for the Kawasiwajo Community Land Trust Foster Farm.
11. Adjourned at 8:26.