

# **Warren Conservation Commission Minutes**

**Meeting August 15, 2011**

**Present: Jane Harrison, Helen Hawkinson, Kurt Jamiel, Butch Lombardi, Bob Rutkiewicz, Diane Warren and David Weed**

**Regrets: None**

**Chair: Kurt Jamiel**

**Next Meeting: September 19, 2011**

**The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Kurt Jamiel. A motion to accept the minutes of the July 18, 2011 meeting was moved by Bob, seconded by Helen, and approved unanimously.**

**Final Budget report – Helen reported that the 2010-2011 year ended with just \$258 unspent. For this year our town budget has been reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,200. Since our proposal was for \$1500, it will have to be readjusted. Jane moved acceptance, Bob seconded, and all voted in favor of accepting the report.**

**Correspondence: There was no correspondence**

**Old Business:**

**1. Hugh Cole Well bench and monument -- Dave reported that John Massed has the stone for the bench but has no idea when he will be able to cut it to create a bench for the Hugh Cole Well monument. The plaque, which had been removed and left near the monument, has been remounted with much more epoxy, according to Ryan Hogan of Warren Monuments. He plans to put up a label stating that the plaque is not metal.**

## **2. Beautification:**

**Rt. 114 entrance to Town – Helen noted that the painting that Kurt did looks beautiful but she has had no chance to do any plantings in the well; she's thinking of Chrysthanthemums for color. She had found gas lines two feet below soil near the "well" so she couldn't plant anything around it. She got the weeds out and will water the hydrangeas. They are keeping the lawn mowed. She made a motion to authorize her to purchase up to \$30 worth of plants for the well. Bob seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.**

**Memorial Tree at the Town Beach – Bob called Judy Fardig. She reported they are still working on the plaque.**

**Fatima Drive Park – Bob recused himself for discussion. Helen received the UMass extension soil analysis report from the soil in the northwest corner of the lot where the grass was blackened. The report showed that the Ph is in desired range, and potassium and calcium magnesium were very high. Unfortunately, the analysis does not include testing for herbicides. Because herbicides break down quickly, even if we found another testing service, it's not likely to reveal what killed the grass. Helen will submit a voucher for \$18.41 for the testing.**

**Kurt suggested that we need a work party to clean the area. We could get the town to put a path of crushed stone so people would be welcomed. Jane showed the design that we submitted to the town council and suggested that the Town could put down mulch. Dave will call John to ask him to put in a mulched path and to move the large rocks closer to the existing stone fence. Helen suggested place**

a sign indicating that it is a Town park. It was noted that Stephen Glad has done some sign work, and Lombardo does signs. Kurt will look into prices.

Company Street Waterfront Overlook – Kurt tried to get a hold of the contact there. Jane talked to Caroline about getting a grant but nothing has come of it. Kurt agreed to call her. Jane still has the grant from Baker Street.

3. Warren documentary – Diane has nothing to report

4. Storm water basins – Bob reported that the maps are in, he just has to get them at the Town Planning office.

A few months ago, Jane looked into the deeds for property that currently have retention basins. She wanted to see how it was done on Privet Drive where, on page 156 of the warranty, she found language that explains about maintenance of retention ponds. We could recommend to Planning that similar language be used on other deeds. She suggested that we keep it in the binder until a new plan for retention ponds is applied for.

5. Palmer River conservation easement – Butch reported that Larry Doyle, owner and general manager of the Swansea Country Club, is ready to meet with the town manager to request a conservation easement for about 90 acres that he owns in Warren.

6. Adopt-a-spots – Jane has been getting calls from the state official in charge of adopt-a-spots who is looking for photos of the one on Market Street. She has sent them and insurance forms to him, so the Market Street Adopt-a-spot is now in compliance with DOT's requirements.

**7. Watershed meeting – Butch reported that they had a meeting in July where everyone was asked if there were any more concerns. The group will present a plan in late fall for all of the towns. He agreed that we should take this item off the agenda.**

**New Business:**

**1. Rezoning request from R10 to B for Plat 13C, lot 560 – Bob Avila submitted plans for property to the east of Metacom, across from Job Lot with a requested zone change from residential to business. The Planning Board advised against it. Mr. Avila also asked to have the change included in the Comp Plan so he can get a zoning plan change. There was big outcry against it, including a five-page letter by Dana Warren who lives on Adams Lane. The issue will be back before the council, objecting to the way it was done. Jane suggested that our issues are wetlands and that it doesn't conform to the Comprehensive Plan. Jane will check the deeds and suggested adding public access to the Kickemuit River. Bob moved that Jane research and sign a letter from us which would be passed by all members. Diane seconded, and all voted in favor.**

**Commissioners' Concerns: None**

**Helen moved adjournment, Diane seconded and all voted in favor. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.**