

**Webster Conservation Commission**  
**13 January 2021**

**Present:** Isabel Brintnall, Sally Embley, Betsy Janeway, Mary Jo MacGowan, Dan Moran (Chair), Susan Roman, Chris Schadler, Michele Tremblay

**Guests:** Dan White

**Meeting called to order:** 7:00PM

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:45PM

Agenda Item	Summary
1. Minutes from December 2020 and next month's secretary	Michele motioned to accept minutes, Chris seconded, accepted unanimously. Chris volunteered to take minutes in February.
2. Old Business	<p><b>Wetlands Ordinance:</b> Dan reported that the Planning Board has voted to postpone presenting ordinance for a vote till town meeting 2022 – still do not have completed review of legal issues by attorney. Sue Roman summarized status of ordinance, potential legal issues, and opposition from some to ordinance as currently written. Some discussion on ways to address these matters. However, it was recognized that since responsibility for this ordinance now lies with the Planning Board, we need to wait for their direction on how to proceed.</p> <p><b>Olivewood Solar Project:</b> Chris reported there is no news since last meeting. She will provide contact information to Mr. White, a guest, who is interested in the project.</p> <p><b>Town salt shed:</b> Chris provided an update. Currently awaiting quotes on road construction. NHFG will return in spring to determine if black racer snakes are present. Presence of racers will impact salt shed project (which is not slated to begin construction for a couple of years) but will not impact road construction which is slated to occur this summer. It was suggested that the proposed gravel pit (see below) also be investigated for possible presence of black racers since it may be suitable habitat for them there as well. It was noted that the NH Heritage Bureau will not address issues re: species (of concern, threatened, endangered) unless notified by conservation commissions. This might be a project for the WCC.</p> <p><b>Gravel pit:</b> Chris provided an update. Road Agent, Mr. Bean, recommends site on Dustin Rd. as a good option for town – less disruptive to surrounding neighborhood and a good source of sand/gravel. Some discussion on possibility that proposed site is within Warner River corridor and thus may be disallowed per DES regulation. Town likely has the right to send comments to DES but not to regulate.</p> <p><b>White Plains Road culvert:</b> Chris reported that the latest plan suggested by the engineer is for two large box culverts to replace existing construction. Positive: plan acceptable to DES. Negative: much more expensive for town. Dan raised possibility of getting a grant, as Warner recently did for a similar project. Chris will explore.</p>

3. New Business	<p><b>Town Webpage:</b> Dan reported that he and Michele will need approval before they are allowed to post anything on the opening page as we discussed last meeting. MJ pointed out that there's precedence for posting on the WCC site (as opposed to the opening page) as she has done that in the past. Issue will be discussed with town webmaster.</p> <p><b>Town easements:</b> Bruce Johnson suggested that there are a number of town properties that could be put into easements. Some discussion on the merits of this idea with one "downside" noted: the town might not want to lose the potential revenue from a sale of such properties since easements typically are "in perpetuity." Some discussion about a proposed bill (HB82) in state legislature that would allow conservation easements to be amended.</p> <p><b>Town survey:</b> Considered Warner's recent town survey (sent by Sally). Webster surveyed in the last several years on anticipation of developing the latest Master Plan. Is this something we want to do again?</p>
4. Additional up-dates	<p><b>Frost Lane construction:</b> no issue here</p> <p><b>Code Enforcement Officer:</b> need to formalize his relationship with the town which is on the Select board agenda.</p>
5. New Business	<p>Suggestion made to discuss setting an agenda for 2021 at next month's meeting.</p> <p>Betsy asked for questions/concerns about the solar project which she, as a member of the committee, will bring to their next meeting. Sue will consult with Betsy about this prior to the next meeting</p>
Minutes respectfully submitted by: Isabel Brintnall	