Warwick Community Newsletter

A D M I N I S T R A T I V E  D E T A I L S

PLEASE NOTE: WE UPDATED THE MAILING LIST THIS PAST MONTH. WE ADDED SOME FOLKS FROM TOWN WHO DIDN'T APPEAR TO BE GETTING THE NEWSLETTER. HOWEVER, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SOME WERE ACCESSING IT ON THE WARWICK WEBSITE, AND DON'T CARE TO GET A PAPER COPY. IF THAT'S YOUR SITUATION, PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT AND CALL 544-6844 OR EMAIL andrea@woods4.com OR SEE NANCY AT THE LIBRARY AND LET US KNOW TO REMOVE YOU FROM THE PAPER LIST. WE DON'T WANT TO MISS ANYONE AND WE DON'T WANT TO PAY FOR UNNECESSARY PAPER AND POSTAGE. THANK YOU!

All articles, ads and correspondence may be emailed to andrea@woods4.com (or call 544-6844 eves.) or left at the Library book/drop-box or the envelope just outside the kitchen on the first floor of the Metcalf Chapel by the 20th of the month before the article will run. Please note the following changes to WCN publication rules: In order to save paper and postage (which has risen in cost dramatically over the past couple of years), we are no longer accepting FULL PAGE inserts at all for commercial ads, and are asking every organization in Town to keep their event flyers to 1/2 page or less. If a full page event for news flyer is desired, the organization may print the flyer themselves for insertion (call Nancy Hickler at the Library for the number of copies required—544-7866) or email Andrea Woods, editor, if the information cannot be fit to 1/2 page and a waiver is desired. The price of advertising has not changed. Business card size ads are $7/month or $70/year or a double size business card size ad may be requested for $15/mo. All material may be edited for length, ink intensiveness, or content and may not be anonymous. Some logs and minutes provided may only be available on the Warwick Website at www.warwickma.org due to space limitations.

Phone Directory

Emergency 911
Selectboard 6315
Treasurer/Collector 3845
Highway 6349
Library 7866
Fire Station 3314
Animal Control 3402
Animal Contr.Pager 217-2681
Clerk/Assessors 8304
Bd of Health 6315
Community School 6310
Fire Dept Business 2277
Police Dept Business 2244
Building Inspector 2236
FAX all depts. 6499
Burn Permits 413-625-8200
(Shelburne Control)

A heartfelt thank you to this month’s donors:
Betsy Alkins and Alan Berman
Susan and Raymond Lagace
Dawn and Kay Magi
Martha Morse
Jean Thibodeau
Trinitarian Congregational Church
Total: $235

The Gathering Place

See the Gathering Place menu each week on the L, the web and TCC Facebook page. Thank you all for your continued support. On Fridays at Town Hall, coffee for $1.00 ready at 10:00 AM, cup of Soup for $3.00, ½ Sandwich for $1.50. Have both (Cup and a half) for $4.00 starting at 11:30 AM. Desserts( by donation) anytime. Need lunch to go, bring a container for soup and we’ll pack lunch for you. All are welcome. WE WILL NOT GATHER ON DECEMBER 26.
- Diana Tandy
Celebrate Santa Lucia Day Story and Activities by Clare Green and illustrated by Judy Lambert will be available for purchase for $5.00 (includes tax) in the following places: Warwick Public Library, The TrailHead in Orange, Dala Bird in Northfield, at the local Holiday Metcalf Chapel Fair, Nov. 29, and from Clare Green. During the Fair, Santa Lucia bread will be given gratis with the purchase of a booklet.

DID YOU KNOW? If you ever lose a newsletter, or want to look at an old issue, they are on the Warwick Webpage at www.warwickma.org along with things like Permit Applications, Police Logs, Meeting Agendas, Town Hall Office Hours, and lots of other very useful information! If you would like post something to the webpage, contact Ed Lemon, Webmaster at elemon@tiac.net.

Warwick Historical Society

The Historical Society will meet on Wednesday, December 17 at 7 pm at the Town Hall for our annual Yankee Gift Swap holiday get-together. Bring a wrapped gift valued at about $5.00, and let the fun begin! All members of the community are most welcome to attend.

Benefit Dinner for Joe Paul

Benefit Dinner for Captain Joe Paul Of the Warwick Fire Department

Jan. 10, 2015 at the Orange American Legion. Cost $15.00
Dinner is Roast Pork, Potato and Vegetable and Dessert. Door prize and raffle.

For those of you to who may not know, Capt. Joe Paul is recuperating from two surgeries to repair torn ligaments in his left wrist. He sustained this injury last January on a fire call. He is unsure at this time whether he will be able to return to carpentry. So please join us for a delicious meal as we try to help Joe and his family ease the financial burden of his long recovery.

Holiday Open Studio

Sunday, December 7, 1-3pm
At the home/studio of artist
Kerry Stone
724 Wendell Rd, Warwick

There will be art for sale but no pressure to buy. Just come and enjoy the hot cider and cookies!! and bring your checkbook in case you see something you like!

20% off selected paintings
Give the Gift of Art!!
Paintings, note cards, lavender printed baby onesies, birch bark ornaments, mobiles and sewn paper collages !!

Get Moving!

At Town Hall, Sponsored by the Recreation Committee
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6pm and Sundays at 8am for ZUMBA! Drop in fee just $5. Call Leanne if questions 544-5553

Circuit Training is 6-7pm on Wednesdays and is FREE! Contact Nan or Leslie for more info at 544-1974

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A non-profit group, Medicine Mammals, from Wendell, MA will give a concert at the town hall in Warwick, MA December 20th 2014. at 7pm.

The Medicine Mammals presenters draw on story telling, traditional and contemporary American Indian music. Medicine Mammals is a non-profit org that rehabilitates wildlife for release back to the wild. Some of the volunteers and board members are also American Indian. We have formed a performance arts group our music to share our musical heritage and bring some awareness that part of what this group does is to bring a Native American perspective and awareness to the plight of wildlife, the caretaking of wounded animals, and environmental issues affecting the earth. We look for medical insights in our work with wild animals.

Their founder and director is Loril MoonDream, who spent her childhood on the Fort Apache Reservation in Arizona. Her grandparents told her that, " . . . animals are our elder brothers and sisters and must be cared for, as they have great lessons for us to learn." She is also a song-holder and story-holder and the resident storyteller for the commissioner of native affairs for the state.

Following her grandparents' advice, Ms. MoonDream works as a licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator in Central MA. A taxidermist, she uses traditional, chemical-free means to preserve animal bodies for study. She also works with local veterinarians to prepare injured and orphaned animals for release back to the wild.

Other performers from Medicine Mammals include her partner, Peter White Fox, from a White Mountain Blackfoot background, and musicians with Iroquois Indian ancestry.

Come and listen to the beautiful harmonies as they sing traditional and contemporary Native songs accompanied by hand drums, rattles, rain sticks and guitars. The songs are relaxing, haunting, spiritual and moving and must be heard to appreciate the complexities of modern Native American music being written and performed today. This performance is funded by the MA Cultural Arts Grant.

Did you know that you can still use some great passes to year round attractions. Magic Wings in Deerfield will warm you up to nearly 80 degrees as you watch exotic butterflies land on beautiful tropical plants. Tower Hill Botanic Garden presents Winter Re-imagined beginning Nov 28 through Jan 4. Open Mon, Tues, Fri, and Sat from 9 to 5 and Weds and Thurs from 9 to 9. Glittering displays indoors and out featuring 12 miles of lights, decorated trees, thousands of ornaments and much more. For more details go to www.towerhillbg.org. December at the Carle features Madeline at 75: The Art of Ludwig Bemelmans. Visit www.carlemuseum.org for more info on lots of programs. Also available is MassMoca, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Ecotarium. Historic Deerfield is open through December.

New books include: Us by Nicholls, Silent Sister by Chamberslain, Revival by King, Remedy for Love by Roobach, The Martian by Weir, The Life We Bury by Eskens. -Nancy Hickler, Library Director

Rosa Fratangelo, Town Clerk
LYME DISEASE: Even though the weather has turned colder, your dog might develop symptoms of Lyme disease, as did the yellow lab we recently had in Doggie Jail before he went to the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office Regional Dog Shelter and Adoption Center and found a great new home. As I have seen from several dogs during their stay in Doggie Jail, symptoms can come on seemingly overnight – one day the dog is fine, the next lame, sore and limping. The most common symptom of canine Lyme disease is recurrent lameness due to inflamed, or swollen, joints. Other symptoms include: lack of appetite; depression; stiff walk with an arched back; difficulty breathing; fever. Please note that in breeds such as Labrador retrievers, Golden retrievers and Bernese Mountain dogs, Lyme disease can also result in damage to the kidneys, and in rare cases could also result in heart or nervous system disease.

To determine if your pet has been bitten by a tick, comb your fingers through its fur after being in woody areas. If you find any ticks already attached, pull it off of your animal’s skin. It is best to try to get all the legs off, as those can help spread the infection. Make a note of your find on a calendar. If you begin to notice your pet having the symptoms listed above, take your dog to the veterinarian and share the information you have. A complete blood profile should be run, and if your pet does have Lyme disease, your vet is likely to recommend treatment with different types of antibiotics for about four weeks. It is important to keep your animal warm and dry during the treatment period. While most dogs do improve, some may have long-term joint pain even when the disease is fully out of their systems. For more information on Lyme disease and prevention, consult with your veterinarian or local animal hospital.

OH CHRISTMAS TREE, YOUR ORNAMENTS ARE HISTORY! Be sure that your pets, both dogs and cats, do not ingest anything on your Christmas tree. Tinsel, lights, ornaments, and even too many needles from the tree itself can cause intestinal problems that may very well require a trip to the vet. Tree water treated with any chemical preservative to extend tree freshness should not be consumed by your pet.

Make sure your pets are not allowed to eat fatty holiday treats, and make sure when you bake that they cannot gain access to raisins, chocolate, yeast or raw bread dough. Be careful and have a great holiday season, and don’t forget to celebrate your pet’s presence in your life.

-Rosa Fratangelo
Luxe Burger Bar
1200 West Columbus Avenue
Springfield, MA  01101
Sun – Thu 11:30 AM to 11:00 PM
Fri – Sat    11:30 AM to Midnight

A recent trip to Springfield brought me to the Luxe Burger Bar next door to the Basketball Hall of Fame, which one of these days I am going there. This was not one of them.

I met some friends for lunch and we treated a friend, whose birthday were a couple days before. We got there right after they opened at 11:30 AM and they had a few tables already filled. Being so close to downtown Springfield, I noticed a lot of people drop in for lunch.

Luxe is noted for the “build your own burger”, however they do have their own specialty burgers and some salads and a couple entrees. We were there to “build our own burgers” so we each took a checklist pad and pencil which are provided on each table. You get to select which burger you want; can include beef, bison, turkey, chicken, vegetarian or tuna. Next you select a cheese which lists about 8 or 9 different kinds. You can select up to 3 toppings consisting of different lettuces, pickles, cole slaw, onions including caramelized, tomatoes, roasted peppers or jalapenos. Or add some additional items for an additional charge such as guacamole, sautéed mushrooms, chili and the list goes on. 10 or 12 different sauces you can pick from then you can select what type of bun you want…sesame, wheat, wrap or place it on top of mixed greens. Hand cut fries, potato salad or cole slaw are you side selections or for an extra charge you can have cheddar tater tots, onion rings, sweet potato fries, or a side salad.

We had a ball making our selections and comparing notes. When the burgers arrived it was pandemonium. We didn’t know where to begin, eat it with a knife or fork or stuff it in your mouth. But they were delicious however you chose to eat it. The hand cut fries were delicious and my friends who had the potato salad said that was good too.

We had no room for dessert but next time, I have to make room since they all sounded good. Burgers range from $8.99 to $11.99 and if you don’t add any items which have an additional cost that is all you are charged. Loved the place and heading back soon. Bon appetite.

-Gloria Varno
It takes a lot of residents to make our town run. If you aren’t already, please consider joining your many neighbors in self-government and public service. Vacancies on town boards and commissions include: Recreation Committee (we need two); Board of Health (as of Jan 1 due to a resignation); Town’s representative to the new regional Veteran’s District; and finally the Conservation Commission. If you are willing to discuss serving in any of these roles please contact me (544-6315) or contact a member of a respective board. Give the BOH a try and if you don’t take to it, you don’t have to run in May. We have a nominee for the CC and the Selectboard likes to publicize before making appointments.

The Selectboard are working on our end of a new Community Development Block Grant application and welcome your input on the planning documents and the housing rehabilitation activity we expect to apply for. We are once again relying on the Franklin County Housing Authority to write and administer this grant and expect to be part of a multi-town application. There will be a public hearing in December which follows November’s public information meeting. You can view the community development strategy and our project list at the Selectboard’s office or on the town’s website at www.warwickma.org. Public participation is an important factor in being granted this very competitive funding. Let’s hear from you.

Thanks to everybody who made it possible for the town to submit our Green Communities application. The Building and Energy Committee and Steve and Janice in particular rate our thanks. Their work on the energy baseline documents are going to be used as an example to other towns of how to do it. We expect a formal announcement and have been invited on Dec. 3 to an event at 9 a.m. at the statehouse “Hall of Flags”.

For Warwick Broadband repairs or installation, the number to call is 978-633-9544. Over half of all households are now customers. Next the Selectboard in December and later the May Town Meeting will turn their attention to a fiber to the home solution being advanced by WiredWest.

David Young, Administrative Coordinator 978-729-3224

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**Holiday Recycling Guidelines**

During the holidays, the average American family throws away up to 10 additional bags of trash! In towns that require “Pay-As-You-Throw” town trash bags, those 10 additional trash bags would cost $15 - $30, depending on the town. A large portion of this trash is generated from wrapping paper, boxes, tissue, packing materials and shopping bags. Save money on town trash bags, save money for your town, and be kinder to the earth by recycling or reusing your holiday waste.

The Springfield Materials Recycling Facility, which accepts recyclables from 75 communities in western Massachusetts, asks residents to keep the following recycling guidelines in mind.

Wrapping paper and tissue paper are recyclable, but only if they do not contain foil, metallic inks, or glitter. Tape is OK. Paper shopping bags and gift bags are also recyclable, and any type of handle is OK to include. Also recyclable are greeting cards (except those with foil, wire, glitter or button batteries), envelopes (plastic windows are OK), calendars, corrugated cardboard boxes, and paperboard gift boxes. When opening or wrapping presents, keep paper grocery bags, a paper lawn and leaf bag, or a recycling bin handy to collect mixed paper recyclables.

Please DO NOT include the following items in municipal recycling: ribbons, bows, tinsel, holiday lights, bubble wrap, packing peanuts, polystyrene (Styrofoam), plastic bags, and plastic “blister pack” packaging (that’s the type that requires scissors to open).

Clean, dry packing materials such as peanuts and bubble wrap, inflatable “air pillow” packaging, and Styrofoam sheets are accepted free for reuse at The UPS Store, 21 Mohawk Trail, Greenfield: (413) 772-2523.

Holiday lights are NOT recyclable in municipal recycling because they get wrapped around the sorting equipment at the recycling facility and they cannot be processed there. Holiday light strings are accepted for scrap metal recycling at WTE’s Non Ferrous Division (the former Kramer’s), 28 Montague City Rd, Greenfield. WTE will pay per pound for holiday light strings. Additionally, you can get a coupon for 15% off of HolidayLEDs.com energy efficient holiday lights by mailing in your old light strings for recycling: www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom_christmas_light_recycling_program.

**Franklin County Solid Waste Management District**

50 Miles Street, Greenfield, MA 01301  
(413) 772-2438 (413) 772-3786 Fax
Dear Friends,

We humans are creatures of our stories. We like to think of ourselves as creators of our own stories, but, for the most part, we are grounded in the narrative of the stories we have grown up with and chosen throughout our lives.

There are many variations, but it seems that there are two basic genres; atheistic, there is nothing that exists beyond what we can see and measure, and theistic, what can be seen and measured is only part of this existence. If nothing exists beyond what can be seen and measured, then Reason is the only way of reaching the “Truth”. If there is something more to life, then “Truth” lies beyond Reason’s reach alone. This is where Myth is useful. To the atheist, myth is just fantasy or a pack of lies, but, if there is more to life than what can be measured, then Myth is a means of expressing Truth through allegory, through story; “I’m not sure it happened exactly this way, but I know it is True.”

Obviously I am a proponent of Truth being more than mere physical attributes and that Myth is “real”, not in the literal sense, but in its ability to say, “There is more going on here than meets the eye.” Part of the problem with our myths is that a whole lot of extra “stuff” gets added to the story that obscures and even distorts the original Myth. Occasionally we need to, as the Apostle Paul would say, “test the spirits”, strip all the tinsel off and discover the core of the story.

I am convinced that this is very much the case with the Christmas Story today. Over the centuries the story has been embellished and “adjusted”. Stripped to its core, what is the story and what does it say about the Truth it is aimed at?

The first written account of Jesus’ life is in the gospel of Mark, a disciple of Peter, the Apostle who denied Jesus before he was crucified. This story never mentions his birth or lineage. It starts with John the Baptist and Jesus’ baptism as an adult. The next two gospels, Matthew and Luke, elaborate on Jesus’ birth in a way that people could relate to. The virgin birth story was a common way of setting leaders apart and, as Matthew himself says, to fulfill ancient prophesies. The wise men, traveling a great distance, from other cultures further emphasized the significance of the life of this person for more than just the Jewish nation. It was a fairly common story line of the time for Emperors, Kings and Pharos, with one significant difference, Jesus was born to an insignificant person in an insignificant part of the world, advocated and lived a life of loving service to others and died as a common criminal.

This is my take on the Christmas story. There was a young, devout Jewish woman who was very much “filled with the Spirit”. She gave birth out of wedlock, which in her day could have meant her death, but her spouse-to-be was loving and forgiving and supported her. She raised her son in such a way as to encourage and facilitate his openness to that Spirit in his life. Jesus in turn became a devout Jew so saturated with the Spirit that had inspired the Jewish prophets that he gave his whole life over to that Spirit working in and through his life; healing the sick, feeding and forgiving the “unclean” and teaching about a God who accepted, and maybe even preferred the poor, the marginalized and the oppressed. He confronted the religious leaders of his faith, accusing them of hypocrisy, self-promotion and greed. For this, he was turned over to the Roman authorities to be tortured and crucified as an instigator of rebellion. After his death, his followers, at different times and places, experienced his physical presence so strongly that they carried on his teachings and spread his vision of what human life, open to the workings of God’s Spirit could be; a vision of a just, loving and compassionate society. The same vision inspired Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Archbishop Oscar Romero and others. It’s hard to find that image under all the tinsel and over-the-top consumerism that now attends Christmas, but it’s there if looked for.

In faith, Dan
ON-GOING ACTIVITIES AT THE METCALF CHAPEL

SAVE THE CHILDREN EBOLA FUND  The Mission Committee is donating money to this fund and will have collection boxes at the Holiday Fair on Sat, Nov 29 for others who might wish to combine donations. Save the Children is also accepting online donations at SavetheChildren.org.

CLOTHES FOR HAITIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH  Steve and Janice Kurkoski have made one trip to Haiti to help hospitals upgrade their electrical systems and in the process have made a connection with an orphanage there. They will take clothing for 2 year olds to 17 year olds as they can fit into their airline baggage allotment when they return to Haiti. They expect several more trips but the dates are not yet set. The Metcalf Chapel is one place you can drop off donations, the school is another.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS  Nonperishable food, personal hygiene items and household cleaning supplies are collected in the front hall of the Chapel.

FRANKLIN AREA EMERGENCY SHELTER  Donations of sheets, blankets, towels and warm outdoor clothing are collected in the front hall of the Metcalf Chapel and taken to the Shelter in Greenfield.

DECEMBER

Christmas Adopt-A-Family
Each year the church reaches out to families that are struggling at this time of the year and buys gifts that they would otherwise be unable to provide themselves. There will be a gift list and instructions at the Chapel. Gifts need to be at the Chapel by Sunday, Dec 21

HUNTERS’ SUPPER FRIDAY, DEC 5 AT THE Town Hall  Not just for hunters! Come for a good hot meal and spend time with neighbors and visitors. Seating at 5pm and 6pm.

DANA VESPERS concert by the PIONEER VALLEY BRASS 4 PM  Sat, Dec 20 at the METCALF CHAPEL  The Dana Vespers is a program that was set up by the North Dana Unitarian church that was “drowned” by the Quibbling Reservoir and sponsors musical concerts throughout the Quabbin area.

SUNDAY DEC 21

COOKIE SWAP @ 3 PM  Bring cookies you made, swap for some that others have made and leave a few for dropping off as we go around town caroling to people who would like to have us.

CAROLING @ 4:30 PM  We will gather at the Metcalf Chapel and divide into carpool groups to go around town singing and passing out bags of goodies.

WHIPPLE OPEN HOUSE  Once again, the Whipples invite all carolers and other community members to come to their house for hot food and warm companionship.

CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY DEC 24
5:30 PM  Family Service and Candle Lighting
11:30 PM  Nightwatch Service
HUNTER'S SUPPER
(not just for Hunters!!)

Friday, December 5, 2014

Warwick Town Hall
Sittings at 5:00pm and 6:00pm

Menu:
Homemade Onion Soup
Braised Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Squash
Coleslaw
Homemade Pies

Tickets: $10/adults, $5/kids 12 & under, Kids under 3 FREE

TAKE OUT ORDERS AVAILABLE (at the door – bring containers, please)
Proceeds benefit Trinitarian Congregational Church of Warwick

LOCAL EFFORT TO AID WITH EBOLA RELIEF

Save a child, Support Save the Children
Every year the Mission Committee of the Trinitarian Congregational Church in Warwick donates money earned over the course of the year to several charities. This year we contributed to:
- Western Mass Food Bank
- Service Net
- Franklin County Meals Program

We wanted to do something to help with the Ebola outbreak too, and a primary concern is the children who have lost their parents to Ebola. Save the Children is the primary charity working with the or-phanned children, so the Mission Committee donated to Save the Children Ebola Children Relief Fund.

Because we feel that important work is being done here, we invite you to donate to this fund too! Currently, an anonymous donor is matching gifts to Save the Children Ebola Children Fund (dollar for dollar to $250,000). Please consider donating on-line or donate your change from shopping in one of the Mission Committee’s specially marked donation boxes during the Holiday Fair on November 29.

Thanks! - The Trinitarian Congregational Church Mission Committee
WCS WINTER HOLIDAYS CONCERT will be 6:30 p.m. Tues, Dec. 16th. Please bring students by 6:15 pm to warm-up. We look forward to sharing an evening of music and hope you can help us celebrate the season and our children’s wonderful talents!

‘TIS THE SEASON TO COUNT OUR BLESSINGS!

A BIG THANK YOU to ALL the many helpers for our Pasta supper! It was a grand success and raised over $800! Even more important, everyone had a truly good time! Many hands made cheerful work – and delicious food. Thanks to moms and dads, students and siblings, and community members who made it happen!!

THANK YOU TO ALL WCS UNICEF TRICK-or-TREATERS who raised over $137 for the United Nations Children's Fund! Great job! We’re proud of you!

WARWICK PLAYGROUP FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Meets Wednesday mornings, 9:15-11 a.m. The Playgroup will meet in the WCS gym and provide for our youngest children/caretakers to play, socialize, and enjoy stories, songs and games. Call or email Deb Wood 413-498-2660, woodd@pioneervalley.k12.ma.us

CLASSROOM BUZZ... Featuring our MULTI-AGE CLASSROOM! Children in the multi-age have been busy telling stories. Preschoolers have been working on storytelling. They have been creating stories on the Ipad with a beginning, middle and end. They record their voices to tell the story. They have also created props to retell the story “Caps For Sale”. I will see if I can add some of these stories to my blog site for people to view. Kindergarteners have been creating stories in math to use in making and solving math problems.

The classroom pretend center has been changed into a storytelling center, with puppets, scenery and characters that the children can use to act out familiar stories or to make up their own. The children have also created characters that they will use to act out jobs on our Friday trips to the wooded area. They are creating a village of people, families, jobs and homes there.

We will be starting units on “We all Grow and Change” and “Families-Alike and Different” in the upcoming month. Anyone interested in sharing Family traditions, activities, or recipes with our class can contact me. Ms. Alison White
Selectboard Minutes—October 14, 2014

Members present: Nick Arguimbau, Dawn Magi, Patricia Lemon (via Remote Participation, joined meeting at 6:02 pmand left at 6:10 p

Others present: Town Coordinator David Young, Town Secretary Rosa Fratangelo Bill Lyman, Highway worker Brian Miner,
Building Inspector Phil Delorey, Roland Jean, Jr., Buildings and Energy Committee members Janice Kurkoski
and Steve Kurkoski, Police Chief David Shoeemaker, David Pasch (Verizon), Planning Board Chair Ted Cady,
Tom Wyatt, Jack Cadwell, Jon Calcari

I. Call to Order Chair Arguimbau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in Town Hall.

Bill Lyman recorded the meeting.

II. Public Comment

Bill Lyman said that he apologized for the confusion surrounding the fact that he was recording the September 22, 2014 Special Town Meeting. He showed photographs of both himself and his grandfather during their respective stints in the Army, as well as a current photograph of Meghan Persico aboard a Navy ship. He then said that when he joined the Army he took an oath to defend the Constitution from enemies foreign and domestic, and was filing a written complaint against the Moderator for violating the Open Meeting Law by saying “Bill, no” and therefore trying to stop him from leading the Pledge of Allegiance before the STM was called to order.

Magi pointed out that the Moderator is an elected official and as such the Selectboard has no authority to accept the complaint. Young said that the procedure is to initially file with the entity that committed the alleged violation, and if not satisfied with the outcome to file with the Attorney General’s office. He handed out copies of a memorandum dated today and sent by the Moderator Miryam William son to the Selectboard and Town Coordinator, the text of which appears at the conclusion of these minutes. [NEWSLETTER EDITOR NOTE: the letter is available on the warwickma.org website and from the town office] Young also suggested that this issue be put on the agenda of a future Board meeting. Lyman said that people do not like to be told “no” when wanting to say the Pledge of Allegiance, and that he will file a complaint with the Moderator.

III. Minutes

Lemon had temporarily left the meeting via remote participation due to the call being dropped, and therefore did not participate in the vote. She rejoined the meeting via remote participation at 6:08 p.m.

IV. Presentations and Discussions

Planning Board Chair and FETC Testimony—Planning Board Chair Ted Cady said that he hoped the Kinder Morgan letter could be delayed pending the arrival of maps that show the proposed path of the pipeline as it goes over various types of land. Cady said that the maps will be coming from the regional planning agency. Magi concurred that it was wise to wait. Lemon said that she had so much trouble hearing everyone and being heard by them that she would leave the meeting at this point and left the meeting for good at 6:10 p.m.

Cady said that he wanted to notify other Boards who may have interest and valuable input for a joint meeting concerning the FERC (Federal Energy Regulation Commission) testimony; the Board concurred. Cady will set up a joint meeting once the maps have been received.

2. Green Communities—Janice Kurkoski said that a document that demonstrates the Selectboard’s approval of the Buildings and Energy Committee’s Energy Reduction Plan needed to be signed in order to satisfy Criteria #3 of the Green Communities application. The plan projects a 20% reduction in energy and fuel usage over the next five (5) years. The Board members had copies of the Energy Reduction Plan.

Young said that all Town vehicles are exempt, but that we will purchase efficient vehicles as replacements as they become available, and that the Town can accept as gifts only those vehicles which are compliant. Young said that bicycle racks will be installed at each municipal building to meet the application requirement of an alternative compliance policy; J. Kurkoski concurred.

Magi MOVED to adopt the policies for vehicle replacement and the Energy Use Reduction Plan. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi MOVED to authorize the Warwick Green Communities application. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Arguimbau signed the necessary documents.

3. Highway Department—Young said that due to a scheduling conflict, Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney was unable to attend tonight’s meeting but would be on the next agenda. Young had grant reimbursement documents that required the signatures of two Selectboard members. The reimbursements were in the amounts of $221,880.00, $2,940.00, and $34,147.00. The $221,880, for Cold in Place Recycling on Winchester Road, and the $2,940.00 for Police road details, were from the Mass Works Grant from the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development; the $34,147.00 was under the Winter Roads Rapid Recovery Program from Mass DOT. The latter met the requirements of the funds being spent by September 30, 2014 and request for reimbursement being filed by October 30, 2014.

Young said that Highway worker Brian Miner works enough hours to be eligible under Federal law for benefits including holiday, clothing allowance and vacation. The position will remain as needed in the winter snow and ice season.

4. Building Department Appointment—Building Inspector Phil Delorey introduced Roland Jean, Jr. and asked that he be appointed Local Building Inspector, which is the correct term for an assistant and alternate. Delorey said that we are required by law to have an alternate, and said that Jean would be familiar with the Town’s needs and available when needed. He pointed out that Jean is appointed in New Salem and Wendell, and is certified and fully qualified to be appointed here as well. Delorey noted that because Wendell and New Salem are also green communities, both he and Jean are becoming familiar with the stretch code. At Arguimbau’s request, Jean gave a brief overview of his professional background and qualifications.
Selectboard Minutes—October 14, 2014 cont.

Young noted that a rarely used expense line item could be allocated to provide Jean with a stipend for the remainder of this fiscal year. Delorey said that he expected that the financial issues would be worked out going forward.

Magi MOVED to appoint Roland Jean, Jr. as Local Building Inspector. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Delorey said that the Town is currently without a Plumbing Inspector and attempted to give the Board a resume for Casey Bashaw, the current plumbing inspector in Orange. Arguimbau wanted to wait until Bashaw could be interviewed by the Board. Young urged an interim appointment until Bashaw could appear before the Selectboard.

Magi MOVED the interim appointment of Casey Bashaw for two weeks effective today. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Continuation of Gale Road and Orange Town Line Pole Hearing—Young explained that this was the continuation of a hearing originally scheduled for September 29th, but had to be continued because the Selectboard meeting for that day had to be cancelled. He noted that the abutter had been contacted and had no issues with the petition.

David Pasch spoke as a representative for Verizon. The petition before the Board was for the installation of one new pole at the intersection of Gale Road, Hastings Heights Road and Main Street in Orange, which would be placed at the edge of the Town line and technically in Warwick.

Police Chief David Shoemaker said that he had issues with Verizon and other utility companies because they arrive in Town without contacting the Police Department for a traffic detail or providing a flagman. Shoemaker asked that going forward a stipulation for the granting of any pole petition include the understanding that to be consistent with public safety, the PD must be contacted to hire a Police traffic detail officer or to let them know that the company will supply its own flag person whose sole duty is to direct traffic.

Young said that the Police Chief can make the decision if a police officer or flagman is needed.

Magi MOVED to approve the placement of a pole subject to the provision that the Police Department be contacted prior to the placing of the pole to determine the need for the presence of a police officer at the Police Department’s discretion. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Arguimbau and Magi signed the Verizon petition documents.

6. Execution and Authorization of Contracts and Warrants—Young explained that there were two grant contracts that required the signature of the Selectboard Chair: Emergency Management Procedures Grant (EMPG) in the amount of $8,500.00 to be used for radio communications gear; MEMA VT Yankee public safety grant in the amount of $3,955.00. There was also a pellet bag recycling contract that needed a voted authorization.

Magi MOVED to authorize Nick Arguimbau, as Chair, to sign the EMPG, MEMA VT Yankee and Pellet Bag Recycling documents. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Young explained that the lease on the current copier was ending and that a new Canon copier is within the budget and would cost about $100.00 per month on a state bid. He said that we could either keep the current copier and either purchase a maintenance contract or be responsible for any repair costs. He also noted that for the same money we could get a better copier.

Magi MOVED to authorize the Town Coordinator to enter into a new copier contract provided that it is within the voted budget. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Young said that there was a Vitals Information Partnership Electronic Death Registration Board of Health Burial Agent Designation Form that the Selectboard needed to complete. He said that the State needed this form, and because the Burial Agent is a Selectboard appointment, the form should be filled out as such. David Shoemaker is the current Burial Agent. Young noted that the Board of Health retains the Burial Agent designation for burials within Town that are outside of the Warwick Cemetery. The VIP form referred only to the Burial Agent position that in this Town is filled by Selectboard appointment.

Magi MOVED to authorize Nick Arguimbau as Chair to sign the Vitals Information Partnership Electronic Death Registration Board of Health Burial Agent Designation Form. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Magi and Arguimbau signed copies of the November 4, 2014 General Election warrant, copies of which were provided by the Town Clerk.

7. Veterans District Merger—Magi said that we are currently a member of the Central Franklin County Veterans District, and that there is a movement for the CFCVD to merge with Greenfield and become the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans District, effective July 1, 2015. Magi recommended that we join the new district, as it would provide more centralized services at a lower cost than the Town could provide on its own, even at the annual cost of $1,756.00. Arguimbau was concerned about the higher cost, but was made to understand that this would not take effect until the next fiscal year and after a Town Meeting vote on the FY 16 budget. Magi said that the meeting to decide whether or not to merge the two districts would be held on November 13, 2014. She recommended that the Board vote to join the new district if it is approved.

Magi MOVED to join the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans District pending approval of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

8. Warwick Police Department—Chief Shoemaker said that Sergeant Michael Gelinas had completed his six-month probationary period as required by the Town’s Personnel Policy, and asked that the Board appoint him for a term to expire on June 30, 2016. The Chief said that Gelinas was “a great asset to the Town”.

Magi MOVED to join the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans District pending approval of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.
Magi MOVED to appoint Michael Gelin as Police Sergeant for a term to expire on June 30, 2016. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Chief Shoemaker said that he was able to complete the purchase of a fully equipped 2008 Crown Victoria police cruiser for $2,000.00 to replace the Tahoe. He thought the Tahoe might be able to be used as an emergency response vehicle for the Fire Department. Young said that he would have to check the new vehicle replacement policy to be sure that it would be acceptable within our green communities designation to transfer this vehicle. Lyman said that it could be designated as a rescue vehicle. It has State plates and is registered to the Town and not any one department.

9. Pipeline FERC Testimony (continued)—Arguimbau said that he had spoken with Planning Board Chair Ted Cady about the testimony and that Cady had told him that due to insufficient communication with other boards and committees, the Selectboard does not reflect the knowledge possessed by other entities in Town with the knowledge to authorize the testimony. Arguimbau pointed out that awhile ago he had asked that all boards and committees submit semi-annual reports to the Selectboard, but that his idea had not met with approval from the other Board members.

Young said that such a routine adds to the burden of serving and it is already difficult to get people to serve in our government. Magi said that those on other committees and boards that have knowledge and information to share should get together in joint meetings. Arguimbau said that the Planning Board Chair thinks that the Selectboard is a poor representative for the Town because of its inadequate communication with other boards and committees. There was a consensus of the Board to have Ted Cady come to a meeting to discuss this further.

10. Appointments—The Town Clerk had requested appointments of two addition election workers, and Arline Lincoln had asked to be appointed to the Crockery Committee.

Magi MOVED to appoint Karro Frost and Pat Vandenberg as election workers for a term to expire August 31, 2015, to appoint Arline Lincoln to the Crockery Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2015. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Town Clerk Fratangelo requested that the board appoint Calvin fellows as a Constable for one day for the November 4th election.

Magi MOVED to appoint Calvin Fellows as Constable for one day for the purposes of the November 4, 2014 General Election. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

11. Correspondence—Young handed out copies of the PVRSD budget for FY 15.

12. Selectboard Reports—Magi said that she attended two finance seminars at FRCOG that were very detailed, excellent and well worthwhile. She noted that the last seminar would be held in November, and Arguimbau said that he would like to attend along with Magi.


14. New and Other Items Not Reasonably Anticipated Prior to Meeting Posting—None.

V. Adjournment

At 7:47 p.m., Magi MOVED to adjourn. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 2-0-0.

Selectboard Minutes October 27, 2014

Members present: Nick Arguimbau, Dawn Magi, Patricia Lemon

Others present: Town Coordinator David Young, Town Secretary Rosa Fratangelo, Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney, Building Inspector Phil Delorey, Local Building Inspector Roland Jean, Jr., Fire Chief Ron Gates, Firefighters Bill Lyman and Mike Mankowsky, Police Chief David Shoemaker, Jim Hawkins (FRCOG), Planning Board Chair Ted Cady, Treasurer Beth Gilgun, Jon Calcar

I. Call to Order Chair Arguimbau called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in Town Hall.

Bill Lyman recorded the meeting.

II. Public Comment

Planning Board Chair Ted Cady said that he had received three copies of the maps that show the proposed path of the pipeline as it goes over various types of land. Cady said that he would speak with Librarian Nancy Hickler to have one copy available at the Library; Young suggested a second copy be kept in the Town Clerk’s office.

III. Minutes

Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney had some corrections for the IV. 3 item in the October 14, 2014 minutes. There was a consensus of the Board to have the corrections entered and the minutes voted on at the next meeting.

IV. Presentations and Discussions

1. Highway Department—Larry Delaney gave a report on the 2014 Winter Roads Rapid Recovery Program (Pothole Grant) project. He said that the project commenced on May 29, 2014 and ended on September 25, 2014. He listed the roads worked on: Athol Road, Flower Hill Road, Orange Road, Northfield Road, Quarry Road, Revere Hill Road, Winchester Road, Wendell Road. He noted that part of a load getting too cool to use was put on Mt. Grace Avenue, and another part of a load getting too cool to use was placed on Garage Road. He said that 306.76 tons of hot mix asphalt were used, at a cost of $20,859.68. He noted that rental of a roller cost $4,170.00 and the cost of gas for the roller came in at $106.44. One load of hard pack was used, at a cost of $290.00. Delaney said that a total of 485.5 man hours of Highway Department labor at a cost of $8,743.46. Delaney said that the total project cost was $34,169; $34,147 paid for by grant funds and the remaining $22.60 came from the Highway Department budget.
Delaney said that the new sander truck has had issues since delivery last Spring. He said that the truck was not operational until July after several repairs were made. He noted that during a recent test the sander did not work properly. All repair work is covered by warranty, but it takes Delaney time to travel back and forth to Worcester. Young said to document everything well; Delaney concurred and said that he had been doping that right along.

Young said that the Board promoted Larry Delaney almost six months ago, and that once his probationary period ends he should be compensated at the rate former Highway Superintendent Tim Kilhart was paid prior to his departure.

Lemon MOVED that Highway Superintendent Larry Delaney be at the same hourly rate Tim Kilhart was paid, effective once the six month probationary period has ended. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

Young said that he had suggested either eliminating or raising the cap on accrued compensatory time for Highway workers. Delaney said that per Selectboard policy the current cap is 60 hours. Lemon said that eliminating the cap would provide Delaney with more flexibility in supervising his crew.

Lemon MOVED to rescind the policy that caps compensatory time that a Highway employee can accrue. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

2. Building Department Options—Young had researched building inspection options in an effort to cut rather than add cost, and had recommended that the Board consolidate the department under the FRCOG building inspection program. The current Building Inspector pay is $9,600.00, while FRCOG would charge the Town $3,500.00 for building, wiring, plumbing and gas.

Building Inspector Phil Delorey expressed concern that paying the newly appointed Local Building Inspector from an expense line was not proper. The $1,000.00 annual pay was not in the FY 15 budget; Lemon pointed out that other departments, such as Treasurer and Tax Collector, had to pay assistants from their own pay until a line item is approved at Town Meeting. She also said that we should consider FRCOG if the cost is lower.

Delorey said that he was not comfortable with the way things were settled at the last meeting. Young said that per Town Counsel, Delorey’s concern for the propriety of using an expense line for pay was founded, as this was not the correct use of such funds.

Delorey said that he was looking to retire at some point in the future, possibly as early as May of 2015. Magi said that she wanted to persuade Delorey to stay on as an hourly employee to finish out the Wagon Wheel case.

Young said that Delorey was very competent, but the $3,500.00 cost of FRCOG for all services versus $9,600.00 for just the Building Inspector salary was something to look at. Arguimbau said that he would rather keep Delorey and pay the $9,600.00 appropriated by Town Meeting.

Ted Cady asked if the Building Inspector salary was covered by fees collected for various permits. Delorey explained that fees collected vary from year to year, and that he employs the same fee schedule here as he does in Wendell and New Salem. Cady said that due to the legal proceedings with Wagon Wheel, both the Planning Board and ZBA prefer the current Building Inspector stay on at least until the court case is settled. Cady pointed out that opposing attorney could use a change in the status of our building inspector to claim the Town’s lack of support for the current Inspector’s actions, which would not be the case at all. Young said that the court case is likely to drag on and could take at least a couple of years to be settled, and agreed that any time Delorey spends on the Town’s behalf must be fairly compensated.

Delorey said that he appreciated the support and kind words, but he serves at the pleasure of the Selectboard and would be fine with any decision they made. Magi said that she did not want Delorey to be let go and wanted him to stay on at least until his retirement and be an hourly employee until the Wagon Wheel case is settled. Delorey said that everything is just a conversation at this point.

Lemon MOVED to table the matter until the next meeting at least. Magi SECONDED.

Delorey said that he was fine with paying Roland Jean out of his salary for time earned, and that he wanted a conversation before the job was simply terminated, which is why he attended this meeting.

FRCOG’s Jim Hawkins said that FRCOG keeps all fees, and that their fee structure is higher than Warwick’s current one. He said that while Warwick charges $60 per square foot, FRCOG charges $150.00.

Arguimbau CALLED THE QUESTION. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

Cady suggested that the economics may not be as simple as they appear, and that an economic analysis comparing salaries and fees would be appropriate. Delorey said that he would have that comparison report for a typical year using figures from Warwick and FRCOG.

3. Warwick Police Department—Chief Shoemaker said that he was in the process of conducting annual employee evaluations for his department, and asked that the Selectboard do one for him as well. The Chief said that this would allow him to see how the Board perceives how his job is being done.

Magi inquired about the break-in situation in Town. The Chief said that there have been two in the recent past, one of which was handled by the State Police because there was no officer available in Town. Arguimbau noted that he had a theft from his house to report and would do so outside of this meeting.

4. Execution of Contracts—

Lemon MOVED to accept the Mass DEP Material Recovery Grant for $500.00, with thanks. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

Magi MOVED to accept the Mass Cultural Counsel grant in the amount of $4,300.00 and to authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Town. Lemon SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.
5. CDBG Housing Rehab and Public Social Service Application—Young said he wanted to have a brief brain storming session on our community development strategy. Lemon said that her priorities were recreation and the arts. Young noted that the store and the associated house were foreclosed on and the former owner was evicted, so the property could be available to the Town. Arguimbau said that he would like to see the store reopened, and that he wanted input from the public. Young said that a hearing would need to be scheduled, preferably during a Selectboard meeting. He also said that a planning or social service activity should be explored. His ideas included reuse of the store, further broadband adoption among low income residents of Town or to deploy broadband to low income residents of Warwick and surrounding towns.

Cady said that in the past a high priority was placed on having a meeting place for the kids to hang out, or a senior gathering place as ways to promote socializing. Lemon said that she would like to see a conversation about this on the “L”. Magi pointed out that we have tried to set up meetings and activities such as the Gathering Place, but that attendance is always low. Bill Lyman said that he would love to see a business take over the store, something with a niche like antiques, but that there is not enough traffic to sustain most businesses.

A hearing date of November 24th was informally discussed. Lemon said that she would put something on the “L” to start the conversation and gather input and ideas.

Lemon MOVED to set a public hearing on the CDBG Application for November 24, 2014 during the Selectboard meeting, and to table a discussion of a meeting place until there has been further discussion on the “L”. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

6. Election Worker Appointments—The Town Clerk had requested that four more election workers be appointed by the Board.

Lemon MOVED to appoint Kasey Rolih, Kady Woods, Jessica Foote and Chris Duerrings as Election Workers for a term to expire August 31, 2015. Arguimbau SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

7. Firemen’s Association—Firefighter Mike Mankowsky said that the wire issue had been resolved, that the pole has been moved, and there should be a better idea by week’s end of how things will be proceeding. Young said that it would be early Spring, if not this Fall. Arguimbau asked to have this item put on the agenda in four weeks. Lemon asked if it would be possible to receive progress reports. Mankowsky volunteered to provide the Board with regular updates. A conceptual drawing will be part of the next discussion.

Young noted that permits need to be applied for no less than one month ahead of next year’s softball tournament. The firemen present agreed that permitting issues will be taken care of correctly in the future.

Chief Gates reported that the newer engine that was given to the Fire Department by the State has a piston ring issue that will require repair. Mankowsky said that there was also a fuel issue in the tanker.

8. Upcoming Meetings—Young said that if at least two Board members attend any of the upcoming meetings that it will have to be posted as a Selectboard meeting. At least two members intend to attend the FERC meeting on November 6th. There will be a PVRSD budget meeting, the exact date and time of which has not yet been determined, and at least two Board members expressed a desire to attend. Magi plans to attend the Veterans District Reorganization meeting on November 13th, and Young said that he and John Bradford will attend the MBI meeting on November 5th.

9. Broadband Report—Young said that a radio system will be placed on the Town Hall roof next week. He noted that a resident took exception to his billing and collections procedures with respect to WBS. Young explained that he employs the standard financial practice of applying a payment to the oldest outstanding invoice. He said that within a few weeks a statement will accompany the invoice sent to each WBS subscriber. Young estimated that about 5 hours of each work week are spent on broadband, most of which is compensated through the $100.00 per week from the Broadband enterprise fund.

10. Correspondence—Young said that he had received a letter from the Northwestern District DA, and that the Town is owed $895.00 from the person who was found to be illegally dumping on Hastings Heights Road. He noted that the money will go to the Transfer Station enterprise fund, which absorbed the cost of trash removal.

Young also showed the Board members a letter from the Athol Selectboard that was sent to the Inspector General asking that Soltas’s business practices with the Towns of Athol, Petersham and Warwick be investigated. Young hoped that the Attorney General’s office might also look at this from the perspective of municipalities.

Young also had two letters for the green communities application, which clarify our compliance with criteria #4, and asked that the Board authorize the Chair to sign both letters.

Lemon MOVED to authorize Nick Arguimbau to sign on behalf of the Board two clarifying letters for the Green Communities Criteria #4, and delegate to the Coordinator the choice of which letter to send. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

11. Selectboard Reports—Lemon said that the Fire Department did a remarkable job of getting her to the meeting and were waiting to take her back home.

12. Coordinator Report—There was nothing offered outside of the written report.

13. New and Other Items Not Reasonably Anticipated Prior to Meeting Posting—None.

Adjournment

At 7:45 p.m., Lemon MOVED to adjourn. Magi SECONDED. Motion CARRIED 3-0-0.

Minutes taken by Rosa Fratangelo
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  HUNTER’S SUPPER—December 5
  HOLIDAY OPEN STUDIO—December 7
  HISTORICAL SOCIETY YANKEE SWAP—December 17
  MEDICINE MAMMALS—December 20
  DANA VESPERS—December 20
  OPEN HOUSE AT THE WHIPPLES—December 21
  CAROLING AND COOKIE SWAP—December 21
  CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES—December 24

COMING UP!! Benefit for Joe Paul—JANUARY 10