Minutes of the Eastham Water Management Committee Meeting of September 22, 2015

Charles Harris convened the meeting in the Earle Mountain Room of Town Hall. Present also were members Blong, Guzowski, Lewis and Sisterson, and Town resident Jimmy Duarte.

Harris introduced Jimmy Duarte who was expected to be approved as a committee member shortly.

The committee turned to consideration of the Minutes of the June and July meetings. Guzowski **MOVED** approval of the Minutes, Lewis seconded and the Minutes were approved.

The committee then turned to consideration of the evaluation prepared by Liz Moran, the Town’s pond consultant, of the Friends of Minister/Schoolhouse’s proposals for remediation of the pond. The committee reviewed the comments and recommendations in her memorandum of August 3rd to Crowley and Blong noted that she had been advised by Sharon Shipley from the Friends that the chief concern was dense macrophytes on the pond. The committee concluded that it would not be appropriate to recommend alum treatment for the pond and that the aeration method that had been discussed previously also would not be helpful to deal with macrophytes.

The committee noted Moran’s recommendations regarding the possibility of harvesting and decided to look further into obtaining a plant survey and obtaining information from Aquatic Control Technologies about the variety of control measures being used in the State. Harris noted he would obtain brochures from Aquatic Control.

Harris reported he was in ongoing contact with Shipley. Blong suggested it would be appropriate for the committee to write to Shipley to record their current thinking with respect to the requests she had presented to the committee. She volunteered to draft a letter and the committee agreed. Blong also noted that she believed that there had been some hand harvesting at Herring Pond before it was treated with alum and said she would try to find out more.

Harris reported that he had attended a meeting with Health Agent Crowley, Conservation Agent Shana Brogan and Shipley during which Brogan indicated that there might have been hand harvesting in ponds in Brewster and Chatham. Harris subsequently reviewed material in the Chatham Conservation Committee files relating to treatment for plants in Fox Run Pond.

The committee turned to recruitment of new members. Sisterson reported that Jessica Dill, Chair of the Town’s Search Committee, had publicized committee openings at the previous Nauset Newcomers monthly meeting and suggested considering further outreach in that venue if it were possible. Harris reported contact with a possible applicant.

Harris reported on his presence on behalf of the committee at Windmill Weekend. There was then discussion of his proposed Committee Web Page Revision. Harris agreed to revise his presentation to more clearly set out his proposed new folders and their contents. He then shared information about the current status of planning for future Eastham involvement in the Tri-Town Treatment Plant. Harris asked if the committee members thought the committee should set up a website for wastewater developments similar to the Town’s Municipal Water Program site. The view was expressed that it was likely the Town would do so at an appropriate time.

Developments with respect to the cormorant problem at Cedar Pond and the possible reintroduction of spillway boards to return the pond to a freshwater state were noted.

Harris noted the Town’s receipt of a letter from the Orleans Board of Selectmen indicating openness to an interconnection between the Orleans and Eastham municipal water systems. He reported also that Elizabeth Gawron, Chair of the Board of Selectmen (BOS), had met with the Town Committee Chairs and solicited their input as to how BOS could help them in the work of their committees.

Guzowski **MOVED** to adjourn, Sisterson seconded and the committee adjourned.

Note: The next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 20th.

Documents distributed:

Agenda

Memo from Liz Moran to Jane Crowley, Minister and Schoolhouse Ponds …, August 3, 2015

Town of Orleans, Water Quality & Wastewater Planning, Program Status Update, September 5, 2015

Handout from Environmental Partners presentation at BOS meeting of September 21, 2015, titled Eastham Water System, Board of Selectmen Meeting, and September 21, 2015

Documents distributed prior to the meeting:

Revised Water Management Committee Website August 9 2015 and transmittal email of 9/17/15

Orleans Water Quality Advisory Panel Agenda, 9/16/15 and transmittal email of 8/14/15

Harris email of 8/9/15 re Ecologic evaluation of remedial measures for M/S

Harris emails of 7/14/15 and 8/3/15 related to Minister/Schoolhouse

Submitted by committee clerk

Adele Blong