

**Meeting Notes**  
**CDC/CPAC Natural Resources Review Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 13, 2008, 7:00 P.M.**  
**Falmouth Town Hall, Large Conference Room**

**Attendance**

CDC: Councilor Wrobleski, Councilor Rodden  
CPAC: Hugh Smith, Karen Farber, Jim Thibodeau  
Consultant: -  
Town Staff: Theo Holtwijk

**New Materials distributed**

- Draft Meeting Notes January 31, 2008
- Natural Resources Meeting Timeline, January 31, 2008 and as revised February 11, 2008
- Summary of Wetlands Policy, January 31, 2008
- Parking lot of issues to be revisited, January 31, 2008
- Draft Public Outreach Vernal Pools, February 12, 2008 and as updated by Amanda

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM.

**Public Outreach Vernal Pools**

The group discussed the roundtable meeting and various other aspects of its public outreach. In doing so it clarified some aspects of the vernal pool policy for new member, Jim Thibodeau, such as 750 feet “area of concern”, flexible guidelines, vernal pool map. Jim stated his interest in BMP’s (versus setbacks) and concern with illegal vernal pool alteration and unreliable science.

After reviewing multiple options, it reached the following conclusions:

Meeting date: Thursday, March 20, 2008, 7:00 – 9:00 PM (with live TV broadcast). It was felt that this gave enough time to finish the Vernal Pool policies. One more meeting was anticipated on this topic to clarify various issues (e.g. what could be done within 750 feet zone, skidder tracks, illegal disturbance of vernal pools).

Location: Council Meeting Room. Various other locations were considered. There was limited availability, and recording a meeting for rebroadcast away from Town Hall would add complications.

Mailing notification for this event:

- property owners within 750 feet of mapped vernal pool
- Town Council
- FEDC
- Property owners who own 5+ acres

The group decided against a town-wide mailing involving 5,000 or so property owners, as suggested by Jim, as it was not sure how often such a mailing could or should be done. It was felt that key interested parties would be captured by including all owners of 5 or more acres in the mailing. What to mail was discussed. The idea of including a written questionnaire was rejected. The group felt that by referring to the website a lot of information could be available before the meeting.

The Forecaster: Joe will contact Linda for an article one week ahead of this meeting. The group decided against a letter-to-the-editor at this time.

Press release: Staff was asked to prepare a press release. Amanda's name and contact information is to be used for feedback or questions, so this can be collated and distributed to the committee.

Presentation: The group agreed that a PowerPoint presentation was needed. The contents would include 5-10 minutes on vernal pools and why they are important, as well as a short briefing on the scientific references and how they were used by the committee, a review of the definitions used, and the 4-tier regulatory approach. It was thought that Beth may be able to put that together. The group decided that Maine Audubon representative was not needed for the first part of this presentation.

Meeting materials: The group agreed that a comparison chart/matrix of Federal, State, current Falmouth, and proposed Falmouth is needed as a meeting handout. Hugh Smith volunteered to make first draft of that (**need to confirm this**).

Staff would work on the scenario graphics. These would be due by first week in March.

Staff was asked to prepare a draft FAQ of typical questions that people may have, using some the questions that the FEDC had posed earlier.

Website: All meeting materials would also be posted on the website at least one week before the meeting. The group felt that it was hard to find the project website and wondered if a flag of "natural resources project" could be placed on the front page. The group decided that a web blog would not be pursued at this time.

Cable TV: Bonnie will contact Mike McDade to see if a short video clip on vernal pools could also be broadcast.

Other meetings: The group decided to first do the roundtable to see which key stakeholders show up, before deciding on additional meetings.

## **Next meeting**

The group agreed to meet next on February 20<sup>th</sup>. At that time the wetlands policies will be further discussed and a beginning will be made with discussing mitigation.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM

Notes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, February 14, 2008