

Weir River Estuary Park Committee (WREPComm)

Meeting Minutes from July 1, 2014

Location: Hingham Town Hall

Attendees: Dick Avery (Cohasset), Patti Coyle (Hingham), Faith Burbank was absent from this meeting, Judeth Van Hamm and Scott Plympton (Hull)

Guests: None

Housekeeping: Started: 7:05 PM

Scribe: Dick Avery, Minutes of May 27, 2014 were approved as drafted by Patti Coyle

Updates

A. Hull: (1) Access between Richards Road and Eastman Avenue via an easement or purchase of a parcel of Lofchie land is still being negotiated with Butch Lofchie. Next steps are for Hull Land Conservation Trust members Scott and Judeth to meet with Cohasset Conservation Trust president Debbie Shadd and the Lofchies to prepare a presentation to the full CCT board. Meanwhile Judeth will seek grants from other foundations to supplement the \$11,000 raised thus far. A subdivision filing fee of \$250 is needed plus permission to add another house to the existing sewer line.

Hull: (2) A community garden is in full development at the former "Showboat" property on George Washington Boulevard as featured in a recent Boston Globe South article. Paul Grata provided the water hook-up. Note that there is still room on the plot for a small park with bench and bicycle rack.

Hull: (3) TTOR as holder of the CR on Chatham Street parcel did an annual inspection and was impressed with the conditions.

B. Cohasset: (1) TTOR has asked the Cohasset Conservation Trust to hold the CR for Brass Kettle Brook Conservation Area around Lily Pond since ownership of some included parcels is unclear.
Cohasset: (2) CCT has conducted a full review of signage needs for their holdings. Many of the naming signs will now include the phrase "No Dumping" since that is a continuing problem.

C. Hingham: No updates

Water Matters Forums

On June 28, 2014 via a series of reverse 911 calls Aquarion announced to customers that a strict ban on outside watering was now in effect. No explanation as to why was included in the communication. An article in the Hingham Journal surmised that it was due to managing within the State allowed withdrawal limit for yearly average. WREP members hope to see results of Weir River flow monitoring during the summer. Dick will request from Aquarion/Forum meeting facilitators a full list of attendees with contact information since that was the initial reason for sponsoring the series. Sense of the meeting is that the forums should continue to sustain momentum of interest and to learn more about the capacity of the aquifer underlying the Weir River watershed.

Land Management Plans

- A. Patti will send Abby Pearsall's template to other members for testing content formats.
- B. Members will try out the template for specific parcels:
- C. Faith -- Noonan / Sidney Pond
Dick -- Straits Pond
- D. Scott and Judeth -- Estuary Center and Weir River Woods

Next Meetings: September 3 at Estuary Center; October 1 at Hingham Town Hall