

Minutes (partial)
Weir River Estuary Park Committee meeting
Wednesday, April 3, 2002

Attendance: Liz Fuller, Samantha Woods, Lloyd Emery, Lawry Reid, Judeth Van Hamm, Jim Shipsky, Vin Dunn, Faith Burbank, Margo Clerkin, Ed Teseschi, Pam Flattich

2. Property

- Winsor property

Discussion of alternatives for conveyance of Winsor property for conservation:

- Straits Pond Watershed Association is not incorporated.
- Cohasset Conservation Land Trust could hold title, but could not hold a conservation easement because, according to the IRS, it is not a wide membership organization.
- The land could go to the Hull Land Trust; development rights could go to the Hull Conservation Commission.
- The land could go to Mass. Audubon or The Trust for Reservations.
- The Trust for Public Lands could help with working out the conveyance.

It is important to the Winsors to have the land transfer handled in a professional manner.

Judeth Van Hamm, Liz Fuller and Lawry Reid offered to serve on the Hull Land Trust to activate it.

Unanimous vote: Contact Dan Ciccariello to see if it is feasible to activate the Hull Land Trust, using the Trust for Public Lands as negotiator.

3. Education

- Liz Fuller, Lawry Reid, and Judeth Van Hamm are interested in participating in the Hull High School visioning process, April 24-26.

4. Water Quality

- The Hull Conservation Commission has received a State grant for water quality monitoring equipment> 1) a continuous monitor that will take readings of salinity, dissolved oxygen and temperature every fifteen minutes, which will be placed in Straits Pond and 2) a hand-held probe to take samples at six times from April to September, 2002, at four outer estuary, one Foundry Pond, and three Straits Pond locations.
- Students could be involved in using the equipment starting next September.

5. Wildlife

- The Adopt-a-Stream training will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 18 at the Senior Housing community room across from Town Hall. The specific time for the shoreline survey on Saturday, April 20 will be announced later.

- Samantha Woods offered to obtain material to help students identify fish in the estuary as part of Biodiversity Days. The material will include a cast net, identification chart, and record sheet showing count and measurements.

7. Tri-Town Planning Process.

- Karl Pastore made a presentation of our application for planning funds to the Watershed Initiative. The Watershed Initiative approved a \$50,000 grant over 2 years. It also approved money for a brochure for the Weir River Watershed Association. Funding for these two approved projects depends on allocation of funds from the Environmental Bond Bill currently under consideration in the State legislature.

8. Next meeting: Wednesday, April 17, to consider a business plan for Gateway East and the green building and to meet with Valerie Talmage of the Trust for Public Lands.