

**Weir River Estuary Park Committee
Minutes of Meeting
April 27, 2011, at Estuary Center, GWB,Hull**

Present: Dick Avery (Cohasset)--SCRIBE

Faith Burbank (Hingham)

Amy May, Judeth Van Hamm, Scott Plympton (Hull)

Absent: Charlie Higginson (Cohasset), Jim Rodgers (Hingham)

Guests: Kurt Bornhiem (Hull Harbormaster); Jason Burtner (MA CZM)

1. Meeting began at 7:00 P.M.

2. Minutes of January 5th, January 25th, February 15th, and March 22 were reviewed and approved with the following corrections to March 22 minutes:

- (a) Judith should be spelled Judeth
- (b) Minutes include Dick Avery's captured list of issues
- (c) Judeth was concerned about residents bypassing zoning requirements in Hull

3. Boating Safety at West Corner Culvert

- (a) Issue is that the paddle guide issued by WREP Park Committee indicates that a short portage is possible around the culvert. This is no longer true due to swift currents and the danger of being swept into the culvert.
- (b) Proposed solution is to supplement the floating caution buoys with a float line anchored so as to stretch across the channel. Kurt and Ken, harbormasters, will draft a letter to WREP that can be sent to Selectmen of 3 towns outlining the proposal and the cost of approximately \$1,000.
- (c) Included in the proposed solution will be additional signage saying don't launch.
- (d) Paddle Guide brochures will be over stamped with red ink to indicate "No Portage" with the slashed circle symbol. Black markers will be used to strike the text saying "Portage over highway is necessary."
- (e) Dick will procure the stamp and markers to be used at the May WREP meeting to amend a season's supply of brochures. Judeth will see to correcting the document on Town Websites.

4. Other immediate issues

- (a) This year Hull will have a harbormaster boat that can reach the inner estuary.
- (b) A "NO WAKE" buoy will again be floated near the GWBlvd. bridge. Enforcement remains an issue since shoreline residents appear to be the repeat offenders.
- (c) Shell fishing has resumed at Worlds End Cove possibly due to greater flows from Straits Pond with the higher capacity culverts.
- (d) The 21E site on GWB needs a champion to move it to completion. Jason Burtner will pursue this at a meeting on April 28th with Rich Packard.
- (e) Jason asked Dick to resume the periodic water testing on Straits Pond

5. Next Meeting is May 24, 2011, at the Estuary Center

Agenda will focus on the group amending the Paddle Guide brochures and moving forward with the ACEC Resource Management Plan. Also, plans will be made for the June 28th meeting regarding plans for smelt (Fish and Wildlife) and meeting with the Conservation Commissions from the three towns.

Adjourned at 9:00 P.M.