

Herring River Restoration Committee
6 August 2008
CCNS Headquarters

Members Attending: Gary Joseph, John Portnoy, Eric Derleth, Tim Smith, Carrie Phillips, Charleen Greenhalgh, Steve Spear, Mark Adams

I. Planning NEPA, MEPA, CCC Scoping and Hearing

Email from Stacy Justus was reviewed. Meeting will go as follows: HRRC will open meeting with a welcome, and opening statements. NEPA overview will be given by Carrie Phillips, MEPA Overview by Deirdre Buckley, CCC opens their hearing and gives their overview, HRRC gives presentation, Q & A on HRRC presentation (CCC, MEPA) CCC staff commentary given, CCC subcommittee commentary given, public comment period, CCC closes hearing, MEPA closing comments, NEPA closing comments, HRRC closing comments.

Items needed: sign in sheets (NPS), comment cards (NPS), locations where comments can be sent (NPS), Gavel, name tags,

Gary will be super moderator throughout meeting

Parts of presentation: history of environment – background (1848 map, 1909 diking), impacts of current management, project overview-change in tidal restoration (purpose & needs), preliminary alternatives, issues identified thus far,

CCC needs 10 minutes to give a presentation, then they will conduct a public hearing to receive comments, MEPA will then give an overview of relationship, Next HRRC will give an overview of the project.

Gary's speech: Welcome, on behalf of HRRC, explain HRRC, unique collaboration between locals, feds, state, Thank you to the public, recognize CCC, Agencies, Elected officials, Delegation or staff

Closing speech: Thank You, Reminder on where to send comments, poster descriptions, September meeting

II. Army Corp of Engineers

A meeting should be held with Mark Forrest, HRRC, and the ACE. This meeting could possibly occur in August. The price match options must be vetted out further before going before Boards of Selectmen. At least 35% of the total price of the restoration project will need to be paid by nonfederal dollars. We are estimating the project to cost around 20 million dollars. We must express our reservations to Mark Forrest. Agencies must see how much they can put up for this project so we can

further assess the need for the ACE. We must also establish timelines for completion. A special appropriation could be requested from the Towns to the delegates to go to the NPS for vegetation management with no cost sharing or match. Board of Selectmen Chair's should be invited to the meeting with the ACE. We could also look at funding from mitigation money from other projects. DCR and Mass Highway can build structures, the Town can contract with private entity to construct.

III. CYCC

Gary left a message for Mark Forrest so they can discuss CYCC. No progress is being made however; there is a lot on the table. It is important for the committee to understand whether CYCC is a participating partner or an abutter who owns low lying property. We need a better way to communicate with CYCC as the information is getting jumbled going in both directions. Diking off Mill Creek may still be an option. The 1.2 million voted at town meeting may be able to be switched to another facet of the Herring River Project. Bob Hubby and Rex Peterson will be contacted to assist the Committee and see if the money could be used in other ways to promote the restoration. Mark Robinson may be a good asset to contact, he is currently drafted a draft conservation restriction.

IV. Hydrodynamic Model

The model review committee met by conference call last week. The model was calibrated and checked twice with real data. Bosma (WHG) asked for more cross sections of the river. Scenarios that will be run include: no infrastructure, or road crossings, and experimenting with the opening at Chequessett Neck Road and all other culverts that are currently in place. WHG will do three runs in total. A model run costs \$3000.00. Discussion ensued regarding model validation and peer review.

V. Discussion EIS Phase II

Altered Statement of Work, Scope of Work for LBG to include LBG preparing, with slides from HRRC, and presenting presentation at both meetings. Remove report review meeting. Draft posters and power point presentations to be forwarded to HRRC by Monday at 12:00 PM. Portnoy will contact LBG with the go ahead to print posters.

VI. NRCS Offer

Phillips and Spear spoke with NRCS regarding cooperating agency status with NPS as lead. NRCS can contribute to the HRRC with Spear's continued participation on the committee, can contribute with cultural resources review, have particular interest in aquaculture issues. NRCS has some money (around 100,000.00) available and is willing to contract with a consultant to advise the group and assist in meeting facilitation and work plans. NRCS can hire and pay the consultant or money can be transferred to NPS for this task. Money could also be funneled through Coastal

America Foundation. NRCS will need an agreement, money obligated, by September 30, 2008 to utilize this money. The money can take us through the end of the preparation of EIS/EIR. Phillips suggested getting back with NRCS, letting them know the HRRC is definitely interested in the money, and that an agreement with CAF might be advantageous for the project because it allows for some additional flexibility in spending. Money could also be used as seed for leadership purposes and future project management.

VII. Minutes

VIII. New Business

IX. Next Meeting
September 10, 2008 CCNS, 10 AM