

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SUDBURY PONDS AND WATERWAYS COMMITTEE

Date: ~~June 18~~July 30, 2007

Location: Flynn Building, Silva Conference Room (2nd Floor)

Present: ~~Susan Crane, David Blohm,~~ Rob Hershfield, Richard Davison, Ted Pickering, Susan Crane~~Ted Klein~~

Absent: Michael Fee, David Blohm, Ted Klein ~~Richard Davison~~

Guests: ~~John Dahlquist, Mark Blohm~~

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

New PWC member Ted Pickering, who was appointed by the ConCom, was introduced. It was announced that due to professional and personal time constraints, The committee discussed the interest of John Dahlquist regretfully has declined to join the PWC as a member in joining the PWC. There is still some question regarding the approved number of committee members. It is noted that according to the town website the PWC shall have seven voting members. One member shall be from the Planning Board, one shall be from the Conservation Commission and one shall be from the Park and Recreation Commission. The remaining four members shall be resident at large positions. He generously agreed, however, to complete a section of the Master Plan (see below).

The minutes from ~~May 30~~June 18, 2007 were ~~not available for review and approval~~approved, with two abstentions.

~~The committee discussed their experiences from the 2007 Riverfest events. Regarding the events hosted by PWC, the children's fishing derby held at Josephine Pond at Wayside Inn was ruled to be a success, while the Willis Lake paddle event had a very low turn out. An estimated thirty children participated in the fishing derby. The derby was managed on a \$25 donation from Home Depot (Marlborough) and a \$5 donation from committee member Ted Klein. The committee passed resolution for submitting official letters of thanks to the Wayside Inn and to Home Depot for their support of the fishing derby. To celebrate the success of the fishing derby and create support for future events, the committee proposes to run an article in the Town Crier. John Dahlquist and Rob Hershfield will provide photos of the derby to run along with the article. Ted Klein will draft a letter to the editor of the Town Crier as a backup in the event that the article may not be run.~~

~~———The committee discussed the ~~annual~~ meeting schedule for the PWC. There are some regular Monday evening conflicts. The next meeting will be held, as planned, on Monday, August 27th, at which time we will revisit a fall meeting schedule. It is agreed that meetings will be held on the last Monday of each month, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.~~

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~~Susan Crane reminded the committee that~~provided an update on her appearance with Rob Hershfield. PWC will go before the Board of Selectmen on July 10, 2007 to discuss the PWC's investigation into the operations of similar committees from other towns. She referred to the Town Crier article for a summary.

~~———Rob mentioned that he had received an email about a grant funding opportunity that may be of interest to the PWC. He will circulate the email to the committee.~~

The GIS map status was discussed. Rob will circulate to PWC members copies of the PDFs of the maps to be posted on our website, in the formats decided at our last meeting. Before our next meeting in August, he will post the maps on the PWC's website and will speak with Mark Thompson about possible improvements to the Town's GIS software, such as the MapsOnline software presented by Kevin Flanders of PeopleGIS in Concord. Ted P. will discuss the maps and the Town's software limitations with the ConCom.

~~—— The committee shared opinions on Kevin Flander's GIS presentation from the previous meeting. The consensus of the committee is that Kevin Flander's system will be more user friendly than the Arc GIS system currently in use. There is also concern that the public will be reluctant to download the Arc software. The committee notes the need for review of the town's "Five Year GIS Plan" from Mark Thompson. Rob Hershfield will attempt to schedule a meeting with Mark Thompson and get a copy of the plan.~~

~~—— Mark Blohm presented the Intern Update, displaying a number of GIS overlays of the town. The current map overlays include street names, topographical lines, streams, ponds, buildings, wetlands, watersheds, parcels, and town lines. The committee requests that Mark provide detailed data source information for each overlay and a key identifying the source codes used on the maps. Mark will try to adjust some of the ponds for more accurate alignment with buildings and roads. Mark will create PDF versions of select map layers. Time permitting, Mark was also asked to look into the possibility of creating an Excel spreadsheet listing the waterbodies and to speak with Bill Place about creating a new layer identifying storm drain locations.~~

The committee recommends that PWC should manage a web page that provides access to these PDF maps for the public. The committee recognizes the need for broad disclaimers associated with the maps. Rob Hershfield volunteers to create a demo of the proposed web page. Rob will schedule a meeting with Mark Thompson to discuss this proposal. The committee spent time organizing six potential maps to be made public through the proposed web page. The committee agreed upon maps containing the following information:

<u>Layers</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Street Names	Town			X			X
Topography	State		X			X	
Streams	State	X	X	X	X	X	
Buildings	Town						X
Ponds	State	X	X	X	X	X	
Wetlands	State				X	X	
Watersheds	State	X	X		X	X	
Parcels	Town			X			X
Town Lines	Town	X	X	X	X	X	X

Proposed map names associated with the chart above:

1. Ponds and Waterways
2. Watershed
3. Navigation
4. Wetlands
5. Water Flow
6. Parcels

Ted P., Rich and Rob attended the recent Army Corps public meeting at Hager Pond in Marlborough. They reported that Chris Hatfield of the Army Corps stated that a

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computer model based on a study of the Assabet River concluded that dredging would only have a 3-5 year benefit, absent significant point source reductions of phosphorous. Dam removal is still being considered as a remedial option. Ted P. will circulate notes he took during the meeting. Rich will draft a letter on behalf of the Wayside Inn requesting confirmation that prior to release of the draft study, anticipated for this fall, the Army Corps will hold a meeting at the Wayside Inn to seek additional comments. The letter will also request confirmation that there will be a public comment period following the draft report's publication. Susan will contact Chris Hatfield to find out more about the TMDL planned for Hop Brook, which was referenced at the Hager Pond meeting.

~~The committee discussed the PWC Master Plan. Watershed assignments for sections of the PWC Master Plan are as follows:~~

Powder Mill and Cutting: Rob Hershfield

Woodside: David Blohm

Landham and Dudley: Mike Fee. Rich Davison will contact Mike to discuss Rich's assuming responsibility to complete one of those sections. Previously, members were assigned watershed regions and asked to write summary reports on each region. The committee reviewed some of the reports. Thus far everyone is preparing the reports according to their own style with the intention that the group will edit each report together for insertion into the PWC Master Plan. The committee decided that editing will be simplified if everyone will follow a basic summary outline as follows:

1. Overview

2. History

3. Water Bodies

a. Inventory (include wetland significance—see I.E.P. report)

b. Water flow

c. Water quality issues

d. Recreation

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~~e. Recommendations~~

~~4. Overall Summary for the Watershed~~

~~The committee assigns watershed region Pelham Watershed to Ted Klein. The committee assigns watershed region Great Meadows Watershed to John Dahlquist. The next draft of each watershed summary is due July 30th at the next meeting.~~

~~———Pelham Island: Ted Klein~~

~~Pantry: Ted Pickering~~

~~Wayside: Susan Crane~~

~~All PWC members are encouraged to bring as complete as possible drafts of their sections to the August meeting. For those who cannot attend next month, drafts should be circulated to the PWC prior to the meeting.~~

~~Rob suggested that we consider conducting written surveys about privately-owned ponds. This will be added as an agenda item at our August meeting.~~

Meeting adjourned at 9:~~15-00~~ p.m.

Next meeting date: August 27, 2007

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