

**Sudbury Ponds and Waterways Committee (PWC) Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2019, 7:30-8:35p.m., Flynn Building, 2nd Floor**

Attendees: Diane Muffitt; Marjorie Keene, Co-chair; Mimi Chandler, Co-chair; Frank Lyons; Ursula Lyons; Mary Addonizio; Pat Brown, Town Selectman; Richard Morse, Conservation Committee Liaison

January 2019 Minutes

Minutes for January 24, 2019 were approved as amended, to reflect that Ron Riggert is a member of the Hop Brook Protection Association (HBPA).

Current Business

Board of Selectmen votes

Pat Brown said that the Sudbury Board of Selectmen approved the revised Mission Statement for the PWC and Ursula Lyons's membership application to the committee.

Salt use in winter

Marge Keene stated that Kevin McCabe, Director of Operations at the Department of Public Works, said that the town has a brining machine for road treatment, which uses much less salt. Sudbury also uses temperature sensitive salt solutions depending on the weather.

Transfer of Hop Brook Protection Association (HBPA)

Ursula Lyons stated that the HBPA Annual Meeting will be on April 25. The HBPA will meet with the Conservation Commission to discuss how the HBPA can transfer its funds to the town, and how the town can continue to carry out HBPA's objectives.

Richard Morse inquired whether there were any possible legal issues with transferring privately donated funds to the Town, and if donors need to be informed of the potential transfer. Ursula will inform and make recommendations to the donors. Debbie Dineen, Conservation Coordinator, also recommended checking with the Town Counsel.

HBPA's Three Objectives

There are three objectives that the HBPA works to meet. Two objectives: 1.) requiring that the Marlborough, MA Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewage Facility decrease its effluent phosphorous levels discharged into the Hop Brook ponds watershed, and 2.) annual harvesting of invasive species have been met, and are monitored regularly. The third objective is getting the ConCom and PWC to work together to preserve and monitor the quality of Hop Brook watershed.

Dan Nason, Director of Public Works, and Susan Collins, who coordinates harvesting of algae and water chestnuts, will meet with the Fish and Wildlife Agency on March 6, to discuss harvesting dates.

New Business

At the ConCom meeting on March 11, Richard will broach having the PWC and the ConCom working more closely together.

On behalf of the HBPA, Ursula wrote to Debbie Dineen, Conservation Coordinator; Dan Nason, Director of Public Works; Melissa Murphy-Rodriguez, Town Manager, and the Board of Selectmen about working together, as well. She also asked that the HBPA be put on the agenda for the next ConCom meeting (March 11). Ursula will send a copy of that letter to the PWC.

Riverfest Planning Meeting

Mimi Chandler attended the kick-off meeting for Riverfest 2019, where she met an interesting array of attendees from other conservation groups. PWC will host the rubber ducky race on June 23, at 1:30, but will not do any harvesting.

She also mentioned that there will be an E.O. Wilson Walden Woods Bioblitz, on July 5-6, to commemorate Wilson's 90th birthday.

Three Legislative acts

There are three legislative acts addressing:

- public communication about sewage discharged into rivers;
- uniform, nonessential outdoor watering restrictions, and
- creation of an Invasive Species Council to manage and remove invasive species in waterways.

Marge Keene met with Representative Carmine Gentile, 13th Middlesex, to discuss the acts above. He co-sponsored two of them, and he stands with OARS in support of these acts. OARS is an organization whose mission is to, “protect, improve, and preserve the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers, their tributaries and watersheds.”

OARS will host a Wild and Scenic Film Festival on Wednesday, March 27.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Federal Law

In addition, Pat brought up federal law, MS4, which is enforced by individual towns, and requires street sweeping two times per year. Materials gathered in catch basins are treated as hazardous waste.

Dam Repair

Richard mentioned that Sterns Mill Dam needs repairing, to which the town has agreed, despite some opposition. The ConCom is in favor of these repairs.

Next meeting: 7:30 pm, Flynn Building
April 4, 2019

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35pm