



Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Posting

Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by M.G.L.Ch.30A §18-28)

Board/Committee: Water Resources Protection Task Force

Day & Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: VIRTUAL

Signature: Sue Croft

Attendees: Steve Gang, Scott Horsley, Jessica Lamothe, Randi Augustine, Amy Dorfman, Ann Harrison, Chuck Dam, David Lumsden, Atiya Zaidi, Jeff Cochand, John Round Nate Desrosiers, Mike Carvalho, Francie Caudill, Helen Bethell, Fred Wales, Gordon Turner, Lynn Atkinson, Olga Hayes, Ron Mastrogioacomo, Peter Colarusso, Skip Colburn, Cynthia Kwan

MINUTES

- Steve Gang welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order. There were no announcements.
- Scott Horsley introduced Grad Student Cynthia Kwan who walked attendees through her presentation of Gravelly Pond Protection Zone Mapping. That presentation can be found [HERE](#). Gordon Turner asked at the end of the presentation if Cynthia could explain how the two sub-basins identified through GIS play into the maps that she presented. Scott and Cynthia said they would need to investigate those sub-basins further and get back to him. Steve explained that it is primarily based on MA DEP regulations. Chuck Dam asked about connections between Gravelly, Round and Beck Ponds. Scott explained that the system is dynamic and that contributory areas can change especially when water is being pumped. A discussion surrounding “ground truthing” was had by Steve, Scott and Jeff Cochand specifically as it applies to surface water moving from Gravelly Pond to Chebacco Lake. Scott then continued on with the presentation slides as they pertained to Gravelly Pond water level data. Scott noted that the safe yield for pumping at Gravelly Pond is around .5 MGD. Mike Carvalho asked if there was any connection between the data Scott was showing regarding Gravelly Pond water levels and the loss of finished water through the distribution system and Chuck’s answer was that there was no connection.
- Scott introduced Grad Students Skip Colburn, Atiya Zaidi and Amy Dorfman. He then proceeded to ask Amy to discuss her contributions to the presentation which had to do with land acquisition and conservation restriction within the Gravelly Pond watershed area. Amy’s primary recommendation was to work with Gordon College on land use and conservation restriction since they are the largest landowners in that area. Scott then proceeded to ask Atiya to discuss her work pertaining to water rates and conservation strategies. Her primary recommendations were to increase water rates

(including drought surcharges) and concentrate on conservation (including imposing potential water restrictions) and infrastructure improvements. Finally, Skip presented his portion of the presentation. Skip's expertise is in irrigation and conservation in that area. His recommendation was primarily associated with technology (sensors, controllers, etc.). John Round pointed out the significant difference in demand between FL (where Skip is based and has access to data) and Eastern MA. FL being much higher. John also asked if when Atiya was doing her research if she found any towns that had changed their rate structure and if so, what was the impact? She noted that Essex imposes a summer surcharge on their water but did not have data regarding how that affected usage.

- Gordon Turner from Working Group 4 (Contaminants) said that they continue to work on putting all their findings into a single, concise document to be presented to the Task Force. There was a brief discussion about current PFAS concerns including superfund classifications.
- Steve showed attendees a draft outline that highlights the work that Groups 1 and 6 have been working on jointly. This information represents all the work being done by the Task Force and is intended to be presented to the SB at their 1/17 meeting. Following review of the outline, there was discussion around conservation education and restriction, continued infrastructure improvements, working with neighboring towns (Hamilton and Gordon College especially) and rate changes.
- Steve noted that the remaining budget and specific funding needs in FY24 still need to be specified but that additional funds will likely be needed to make sure Task Force recommendations can continue beyond the formal disbanding of the Task Force.
- Minutes from Dec 7 meeting were unanimously approved.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Wed Jan 25 at 7:00 PM.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.