

TOWN OF ACTON
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

Documents: Any documents utilized during this meeting are either included in these minutes, available on the web and/or can be examined at the Town offices during regular business hours.

Present: Robert Sekuler, Lucy Kirshner, Barry Rosen, Matthew Mostoller, Joan Gardner (Board of Selectmen Liaison). Guests: Kim Kastens, Terra Friedrichs.

Note Taker(s): Barry Rosen

Chairperson: Lucy Kirshner

Called To Order: The chairperson called the meeting to order on September 26, 2018 at 7:06 PM

Old Business:

1. Approval of Minutes:

1.1. On a motion by Mr. Mostoller, which was seconded by Mr. Sekuler, the WRAC minutes of September 20, 2018 were approved by a unanimous vote.

1.2. On a motion by Mr. Mostoller, which was seconded by Mr. Sekuler, the WRAC minutes of September 22, 2018 were approved by a unanimous vote.

New Business:

2. Analysis of Water Resources Workshop: The committee began its discussion and analysis of the workshop that took place on Saturday, September 22, 2018. A number of large "Post-it®" type sheets were created by the various breakout groups during the workshop. Mr. Beck has begun the task of transposing the information from those sheets to PowerPoint slides. We were able to look at the first batch of information that had been transposed. *Action Item: Mr. Rosen was asked by the committee to contact Mr. Beck and ask that he send the WRAC a more complete slide deck as he completes his work.* The committee reviewed and commented on the available scenario slides that were available to them and made some initial comments to be considered during the review. [Captured some of the comments (paraphrased)]

2.1. Ms. Kirshner: Sarah (Bursky) remarked to her during the workshop lunch that there was more than just science data need which surfaced during the various breakout sessions.

2.2. Ms. Kastens: There is a need for a shared vision involving processes and unknown materials.

2.3. Mr. Mostoller: How does this fit with the Town Master Plan?

2.4. Ms. Kirshner and Mr. Mostoller: Should the WRAC study be integrated with the town's 2040 plan? Should water issues (water supply, water source protection) be integrated into the plan? That is, feed "seamlessly" into the next master plan.

- 2.5. Mr. Rosen: It seems like we should have two parallel tracks: (1) science (2) process, policy and legal/authority. The two tracks need to “speak to each other” (exchange information). Ms. Kastens stated that she supported this approach and added that legal could be clarified by adding “authority.”
- 2.6. Group felt that we should look for commonality between scenario groups and between scenarios. For example, in Scenario #1, we found commonality between groups in:
 - 2.6.1. Could a well be drilled?
 - 2.6.2. Can water be obtained from outside of Acton?
 - 2.6.3. Could the developer do some sort of mitigation on the existing properties and/or the property to be developed?
- 2.7. A goal should be to get to a common or shared vision. There was some discussion that there are those that do not believe some of the information when it is presented to them. An idea was offered that getting to this common division would be easier if someone from the town (a staff member, a selectmen, town manager, etc.) were present during the calculations process to participate in arriving at the results.
3. Date/Time of Next Meeting: The next meeting of the WRAC has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at the Water Supply District of Acton, 693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA beginning at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Mostoller which was seconded by Ms. Kirshner, the meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 9:00 PM.