

TOWN OF ACTON
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES OF JANUARY 10, 2019

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: Lucy Kirshner, Robert Sekuler, Barry Rosen, Joan Gardner (BOS Liaison). Guests: Kim Kastens.

Note Taker(s): Barry Rosen

Chairperson: Lucy Kirshner

Called To Order: The chairperson called the meeting to order on January 10, 2019 at 7:35 PM. A quorum was present.

Old Business:

1. Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Sekuler which was seconded by Ms. Kirshner, the minutes of December 12, 2018 were approved by a unanimous vote.
2. Citizens Comments: Ms. Kastens explained the latest information that she had regarding the request by the Town of Concord to extend their current order of conditions regarding Nagog Pond by 3 years. The citizens that are contesting this believe that new information is available that was not available when the original NOI (Notice of Intent) was filed and therefore the Conservation Commission was obligated to consider the new information during the process to issue a new order of conditions. Ms. Kastens told us that she had consulted with two very competent engineers who told her that the pumping system being employed by Concord (contained in the submitted diagrams) were capable of pumping the pond level down to the level of the intake. Concord is disputing this by stating that the system is strictly a gravity feed system. Concord also claimed during the sessions that the citizens were not using the most current plans that Concord submitted. The bottom line is that the Conservation Commission granted a 3-year extension of the order of conditions to the Town of Concord. Ms. Kastens told us that the citizens are also investigating other possible remedies to protect Nagog Pond.
3. Reports/Action Items:
 - 3.1. VCC: Mr. Rosen contacted Greg Hutchins (Chair, VCC) concerning the WRAC making a TV commercial message that would be played on Acton TV to assist the VCC in recruiting Associate Members to the WRAC. Mr. Hutchins explained that the messages are 2-3 minutes long and that the WRAC needs to write the script for it. When we are ready and have identified the person to make the commercial, we are to go to a web site which he identified in his email to schedule the time. He will then send the presenter additional guidelines regarding preparation and presentation. He estimated that it will take about 15 minutes to tape the spot. Mr. Rosen forwarded the information from Mr. Hutchins to Mr. Beck as the WRAC identified Mr. Beck as the individual to make the TV commercial.
 - 3.2. WRAC ON THE TOWN WEB SITE: Mr. Rosen contacted Matt Frost asking him to update the WRAC area on the Town's web site. Mr. Frost's messages back to Mr. Rosen were:

- 3.2.1. “Michael Kreuze was sworn-in last week, and should remain on the list.” This was news to me so it was announced to the membership and liaison during the meeting.
- 3.2.2. “Matthew Mostoller’s term has expired. The Clerk’s office has added him back to the list with the expired term.” Mr. Rosen contacted Mr. Mostoller about this. The Board of Water Commissioners is scheduled to re-appoint Mr. Mostoller as the AWD representative to the WRAC at their next meeting (1/14/2019). He must then be reappointed by the Board of Selectmen and sworn-in again by the Town Clerk’s office. This was also explained during the meeting so that Ms. Gardner could add this to the BOS agenda. Mr. Frost told me that he believes that the Town Clerk agreed to process all other aspects of my request. [Correcting WRAC officers and membership.]
- 3.3. RECRUITING A MEMBER FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE: Mr. Rosen contacted the Acton Planning Committee explaining that we would like a member of the Planning Committee to become a member of the WRAC as we believe there would be synergy between the two committees. As of the date of this meeting, Mr. Rosen had not received a reply from them. Ms. Gardner, who is the BOS liaison to the Planning Committee told us that they had lost some members and those remaining were already on other committees. It seems that they do not have the “bandwidth” to work directly with the WRAC at this time.
- 3.4. MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT: There was additional discussion about membership and everyone felt that the WRAC would benefit greatly from two additional members. There was a strong feeling that it would be best if the WRAC were able to locate possible new members and seek their approval from the BOS. Mr. Beck has contacted one possible candidate that we believe is close to retirement or semi-retirement. Mr. Beck told Mr. Rosen that he has yet to hear back from that individual. Ms. Kastens thought of another possible person that might be interested. The woman that Ms. Kastens has in mind is a trained hydrogeologist that lives in Acton and is not currently working in her trade. The members thought that her background sounded like a wonderful fit and asked Ms. Kastens if she would be willing to contact her. Ms. Kastens consented to do so.

New Business:

4. WRAC Area of Town web site:
 - 4.1. The list of members was not correct so Mr. Rosen contacted Acton Town IT to ask that it be updated to the current WRAC membership list and the positions held. The results of this inquiry are discussed in the “Action Items” report above.
 - 4.2. The committee discussed the WRAC summary contained on the web site. Mr. Rosen explained that the new mission statement approved by the BOS does appear when one clicks on it. However, Mr. Sekuler pointed-out that WRAC summary which appears when one first arrives at the WRAC area of the web site does not correctly reflect the latest mission statement which now includes wastewater, storm water and potable water needs. Mr. Rosen and Mr. Sekuler will verify this and Mr. Rosen will add the rewrite of the WRAC summary to the next meeting agenda.
5. Water Workshop Actionable Items: The committee reviewed the last document contained in our previous minutes. After substantial discussion the WRAC felt that the document did not yet fully reflect the committee’s previous discussion and feedback. Based upon the questions raised during

the workshop and feedback from the workshop facilitator, the group felt that more than a study was likely necessary. The consensus was for meeting participants to continue to send any feedback on the document directly to Mr. Beck without copying others and to continue discussion of this topic at the next scheduled meeting of the WRAC.

6. Date/Time of Next Meeting: The time and date for the next meeting of the WRAC will be on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at the headquarters of the Water Supply District of Acton, 693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA beginning at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment:

On a motion to adjourn made by Mr. Sekuler and seconded by Ms. Kirshner, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM by a unanimous vote.