



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2021
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Barry Rosen, Matthew Mostoller, Ronald Parenti, Ron Beck

Chairperson: Ron Beck

Clerk: Matthew Mostoller

Others in Attendance: Joe Robb, Himaja Nagireddy, Kim Kastens, Alissa Nicol, Mike Geis

1. Opening

Chair Ron Beck opened the meeting at 7:02 PM.

2. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the Water Resources Advisory Committee's (WRAC) February 5, 2020, meeting were approved on a motion by Ron Beck, seconded by Barry Rosen. Matthew Mostoller abstained as he was not present at that meeting.
- B. Public Remarks/Comments – Himaja Nagireddy indicated that Mike Geis does not need vetting by the Volunteer Coordinating Committee (VCC). It was noted that Mike was at the VCC concurrent with this meeting.
- C. Discuss Great Road Revitalization Plan – This item was taken out of order so the committee could determine if it should be part of the presentation to the Select Board. After reviewing the proposal and its implications for water, the committee believed it should be addressed with the Selectboard and bolsters the argument for water resource planning to occur in Acton. Concerns include water demand from restaurants and mixed-use development, runoff and recharge. Barry Rosen plans to attend the September 28 workshop. The committee believes if a feasibility study moves forward the implications of sewerage also need to be examined. A slide will be added to the presentation discussing concerns.
- D. Prepare for meeting with Select Board – The group went through each slide and provided feedback. Revisions to the charts need to be made and the limitations of the information presented should be clearly stated in the presentation. Issues around drought, wetlands, land use, alternatives, climate, commercial & industrial uses, and balancing recharge and withdrawal to ensure natural buffering capacity should be included in the presentation. Matthew Mostoller and Ron Parenti were going to work on addressing the charts. This should include updated population and water use numbers since the charts were created, addition of the total physical capacity of the Acton Water District (AWD), and the projected volume by the Water Needs Forecast. Matthew Mostoller suggested with the upcoming new sources of supply, meeting our water needs of 30,000 people (assuming



similar development patterns) would be likely if contamination was not artificially hindering AWD's ability to produce water.

- E. Continue work on advancing the Water Study – This agenda item morphed with the review of the slide deck. Addressing alternatives in this study would provide a meaningful opportunity to address the process and issues around joining the MWRA. Mike Geis joined late and felt like we needed to identify our goals. Ron Beck wrapped up by reiterating the need for professional help, looking at all water resource concerns when reviewing projects and proposals in the community, and advocating for additional funding to move a comprehensive study to completion.

4. Adjournment

The committee discussed our next meeting dates and whether the Select Board meeting on October 4th needed to be posted for WRAC. Ron Beck and Ron Parenti are going to attend in person. Based on schedules, we will meet for a dry run of the presentation on September 29, 2021 at 4 pm and a regular meeting will be scheduled for 7 pm on October 7th. On a motion by Matthew Mostoller and seconded by Barry Rosen, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM by a unanimous roll call vote.