

Waukegan Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes October 21, 2009

Members Present:

Bruce Bond
Bill Corr
Randy Eifert
John Hodsdon
Pru Tylenda
Tim Whiting

Staff Present:

Angela LaBrecque

Visitors:

Stan Wallerstein, Meredith Resident

Agenda:

- Approve the minutes from 9/23 meeting
- Status of WSOA acquisition of Spear property
- Status of proposed health ordinance
- Update on Stormwater issue: NHLA demo project: Knisley sub-division; Olsheski redevelopment
- Other business: launch ramp port-a-potty; railroad ties; Impervious surface (CSPA); VOC testing; Chloride testing
- New Business

Meeting called to order at 8:00 AM

The minutes from the September 23rd meeting were approved as submitted with no additions, amendments or deletions.

Status of WSOA acquisition of Spear property:

- Duncan McNeish was scheduled to address the committee on the status of WSOA purchase of the Spear property on Snake River. However, the previous day, John Edgar advised Duncan that he had just determined that the Selectmen of the town did not have the legal authority to approve the use of town funds to acquire property outside the town for any reason. The MCC is the only authority within the town which has the authority to do so. This MCC enabling authority was approved at the last Town Meeting. Subsequently, Duncan did not attend. The WSOA will endeavor to raise the funds for the purchase without seed money from the town.

Update from the Lawn care Subcommittee:

- Randy explained the first meeting of the newly formed Lawn Care Sub-Committee. The town DPW has been using organic fertilizer for the past two years. Meredith Parks will phase in the use of organic lawn fertilizer on the town's recreational fields. Randy indicated that he hoped to get the schools involved in the effort to reduce nutrient run off into surface water bodies. Some of the shoreline of Hesky Park is collapsing into Meredith Bay.

Status of proposed health ordinance

- Bruce informed the Committee that John Edgar would be getting the Health Ordinance Sub-Committee together the following week to sit down and work out the wording for an ordinance to address old, high risk and near failure septic systems. This is particularly important as it appears that the State, because of the budget crunch may not be enforcing laws and rules the same or more

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restrictive in the future, but possibly to a lesser extent. The ordinances will be there, but enforcement will more than likely be up to the towns to handle.

Stormwater issues:

- Bruce felt the NHLA demo project at the Waukegan launching ramp park did not get a major bang for the money. The barriers to prevent water running off into the lake and down the launching ramp were insufficient. Signage alongside the Waukegan Street announcing and defining the project was non-existent.
- A vegetative buffer was recommended along the lower edge of the Knisley two lot sub-division. The Committee had previously recommended we go on record with a letter to the Planning Board on this issue.
- The redevelopment of the Olsheski property on Lake Waukegan in Center Harbor and the lack of adequate erosion controls is of concern should there be a major storm event.
- In a related situation, Randy questioned the potential runoff into Reservoir Brook which might occur from the upcoming expansion of the Golden View facility.

New Business:

- Stan Wallerstein brought up the issue of the growing number of non-toxic green algae “pillows” in the lake in recent years making swimming in the canal impossible at times.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 11/18/09 at 8:00 am in the Town Hall Annex.

Minutes submitted by Bruce Bond.

These minutes were approved as had been drafted at the 11/18/09 WWAC meeting.