



Sustainability Committee Working Session Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2022

11:00 am. *This meeting was held at the Dunaway Center*

1.0 Welcome & Call to Order 11:00 AM

1.1 Roll Call

Members Present: Priscilla Botsford, *Chair*; Paul Breen, *Member*; and Jane Greene, *Secretary* (Marjorie Katz, David Nosnik and Pamela Sawyer were excused)

Guest: Elaine Cooper

2.0 Ongoing Business

2.1 ESC Seminar - planning, set up

Jane reviewed advertising outreach with ESC flyers - posting at Ogunquit locations, on our website, distribution to email groups. Priority attendees are those in enforcement: Fire Department, Police Department, new Code Enforcement Officer and Public Works and contractors.

Priscilla added that it will be good to have an engineer give us advice. The presentation will be two hours plus Q&A and available on zoom.

ACTION: Jane will purchase *Dunkin' Donuts* coffee (decaf and regular) as well as donuts and water bottles for approximately two dozen people. She will set-up at 8:30.

2.2 Water Quality Strategic plan

Priscilla reviewed the meeting she attended on January 7th. Present at the meeting were Maine Healthy Beaches, FB Environmental, Suzanne Williams, Ogunquit Fire Chief, and Town Treasurer, Mandy Cummings. Focus was the impending press release by the EPA regarding the downgraded status of Riverside Beach. It will be an opportunity for more grant money.

Priscilla shared that all the catch basins in the Main Beach parking lot are linked together and the outfall flows directly onto Riverside Beach. FBE was the consultant, ACF is the company who manufactures and installs the catch basins and a gravel company is doing the sitework. Priscilla commented that reviewing the design, possibly for a second pipe that could be installed to direct the outflow away from Riverside Beach, could be useful..

Members reviewed the 2013 Ogunquit Watershed Based Plan.

 [Ogunquit River Watershed Based Plan \(1\).pdf](#)

At the bottom of page 13 a decision was made to focus on bacteria, not erosion from stormwater runoff:

3.3.9 Conclusions from 2003 and 2013 Watershed Surveys

Stakeholder concerns in the Ogunquit River watershed have evolved since the 2003 watershed survey, with bacteria becoming the primary pollutant of concern. This current focus on bacteria is driven by the extremely intensive use of the swimming beaches in the tidal portion of the Ogunquit River and the oceanfront beaches near the mouth of the river, plus the additional ten years of bacteria data through Maine Healthy Beaches program, which clearly shows that bacteria at the beaches derives from upstream, watershed sources.

Much of the 2003 survey focused on general stormwater pollution, which also contains high levels of bacteria. Efforts to reduce stormwater runoff will reduce the pollutants found in the 2003 survey, as well

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FB Environmental Associates

Ogunquit River Watershed Based Plan

July 2013

as bacteria. Erosion is still considered an important, if secondary, pollutant. Reducing the speed and intensity of runoff from parking lots, roads, and lawns will reduce erosion.

Jane added that a 2003 Survey included in the 2013 Plan indicated sedimentation as being the predominant type of pollution observed:

3.3.2 Sediment in 2003 Survey

Sediment was the most predominant type of pollution observed, followed closely by nutrients and toxic materials, respectively. These three types of pollution were frequently observed due to the abundance of road crossings and erosion sites present. Out of the 160 NPS sites recorded, 97 of these sites (61%) either had or had a strong possibility of contributing sedimentation pollution. These results are followed by 79 nutrient sites (49%), and by 60 toxic material sites (38%). The remaining 3 pollution types recorded include: flow restriction, 20 sites (13%); water discharge / water intake, 11 sites (7%); and bacteria, 8 sites (5%).

Jane asked about the Table on page 21. There should be a corresponding map. Where were these sites? What "Toxics" were found?

Table 6: Identified Critical Areas in the Ogunquit River Watershed.

NPS Pollution Critical Areas <i>Ogunquit Watershed Survey Results April 2, 2013</i>				
Site ID	Site Type	Issues	Location UTM	Impact
1-2	Residential	Channel , temperature, buffer	0369939 4789944	Medium
1-3	Residential	Temperature and Buffer	0369947 4790049	Medium
1-9	Municipal	Misaligned culvert creating channel issues	0369934 4789896	Medium
2-1	Municipal	Nutrients/bacteria, temperature	0371662 4794069	Medium
2-2	Municipal	Nutrients/bacteria	0371697 4793325	Medium
2-4	Commercial	Toxics	0370373 4792180	High
2-5	Commercial	Toxics	0370565 4792899	High
2-6	Municipal	Toxics with high impervious surface area	0370576 4789835	High
2-7	State Road	Erosion and bacteria	0370260 4791211	High /Medium
2-9	Municipal	Toxics and temperature	0370820 4791338	High
3-3	Agricultural	Bacteria and buffer	0364609 4792507	Medium
3-5	Agricultural	Bacteria and buffer	0362433 4794125	Medium
3-7	Residential	Erosion and buffer	0366531 4793399	Medium

ACTION: Jane will research the Table on page 21 of 2013 Ogunquit River Watershed Based Plan:

- Is there a corresponding map to the Table on page 21?
- What testing procedure was used?
- What were the specific “Toxics” found within the sites where there was “High” impact?

Priscilla noted a steep rise in development in 2007 that continued to grow in 2013. Where are we now in 2021?

Elaine said that she could find the data. Paul suggested a histogram, mapping growth from 2014 - 2021 - basing it on every year since the 2013 Plan.

Paul raised the possibility of grants, and in particular the DEP Grant Workshop which is soon. The workshop will give information on writing a proposal for a DEP grant for a consultant to update the 2013 plan that can then be used to request a DEP grant to address the pollution issues, similar to the 2013 plan.

Priscilla asked if our plan should include an update to the 2013 Plan. Elaine shared that consultant fees for the 2013 plan might have been approximately \$25,000.

ACTION:

Priscilla will ask Mandy Cummings for historical data on the grant and Town money spent on these projects and the consultants.

PRISCILLA: There is value in assessing the 319 grant process and finding ways to make it more effective. Engineering assistance is necessary to achieve results and get full value from the process. In addition, a Natural Resources position will need to be the point person for a consultant.

PRISCILLA: We need to update the 2013 Plan— Population and Demographics How can we find updated Land use and Land Cover? Pages 2-9 have not been updated since 2007.

ACTION: Paul will contact the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve:

How do we update the information inside the 2013 Plan – particularly *Land Use*

and Land Cover? (Pages 2-9 have not been updated since 2007.)

He will ask about the corresponding map to the Table on page 21 of the Plan, since FBE got it from them.

ACTION: Priscilla will create a list of action items from the 2013 Plan that have yet to be implemented for inclusion in the new proposal.

3.0 Public Comment

There was no Public Comment

4.0 Next meeting

Regular Committee Meeting: Thursday, January 27th @ 4:30

5.0 Adjournment 12:30 PM

Please visit our website <https://sustainabilityogunquit.org> for additional information