



Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 17th, 2022

4:30 p.m.

This meeting is being held at the Dunaway Center

1.0 Welcome & Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:30.

1.1 Roll Call

Members Present: Paul Breen, *Member*; Priscilla Botsford, *Chair*; Jane Greene, *Secretary*; Pam Sawyer, *Alternate*

Guests: Everett Leach, *Conservation Commission*, Elaine Cooper

- Motion was made to elevate Pam Sawyer to full voting member. Motion was seconded and passed 3-0.
- Motion was made to excuse Marjorie Katz and David Nosnik from the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed 4-0

2.0 Review of Meeting Minutes from January 27th, 2022

Minutes were approved.

Public Hearing for Hybrid - Consensus to hold hearing about Hybrid Zoom at next meeting.

3.0 Ongoing Business

3.1 Review current version of Water Quality Plan Draft

Members went through each section of the current Water Quality Plan Draft for flow and conciseness.

Pam questioned the use of the word *Overview*. A better idea, she thought, was identifying the “why” the “problem”

A key point will be to illustrate what the Town has already spent on the water quality issue, in particular the 319 Grant, which Pam estimated at over \$100,000 for Phases I,II,III and IV. What was achieved for the money spent?

Stormwater and Erosion Control: Members agreed that the pie chart on page 5 is not effective. Rather, there should be a pie chart clearly illustrating the types of pollution in the runoff and the percentages. For example, according to a 2007 study, 85% is stormwater run-off from residential and commercial sources. Everett noted that the percentage of human waste vs animal waste needs to be included, as well as dog waste versus wildlife waste. Jane agreed to create that chart.

Members discussed various construction sites where stormwater runoff seems to be an issue.

Priscilla brought up the population density issue - land development. Keeping stormwater from leaving a site should help determine minimum lot size, not just connection to utilities, since there is no stormwater treatment utility.

Priscilla: Improving the water, managing stormwater runoff, cannot happen without *enforcement*. If projects keep getting approved with no enforcement of current laws, the water will not improve.

Priscilla added that if you see a project that is not going well - where devastation has begun - *then* you can contact the DEP or the Army Corps of Engineers. Currently, there is a rule that if a DEP application for a permit-by-rule is not reviewed by the DEP in 10 days, then it's considered approved. However, the Town is still responsible/liable for projects complying with all Shoreland zoning and State statutes.

Currently, there is no peer review of construction engineering plans before building begins. Members agreed that this is a need. There is a process and a checklist.

Catch Basins at Main Beach (Page 7)

Catch Basin #2 - Main Beach parking lot, being a low spot, is popular with the seagulls. The seagulls' waste contributes to the pollution in the runoff going into Riverside Beach. Planting buffers may deter seagulls, and even if they *did* roost, vegetative buffers would absorb the waste; better than going straight into the catch basins. This recommendation would require the lot to give up some parking spots, but worth further study. Committee will suggest this idea to the 319 grant administrator.

Sewer/Septic (page 7) Pam shared that the Sewer Department has not found any major issues with sewer/septic lines. "At this point, we haven't identified any major issues here" was added to "Recommendations" under Septic System graphic.

Everett brought up the fact that Eldredge Road (off Route One) is the dividing line in the watershed. Paul suggested an overlay on the watershed map that shows the tributaries and how/where the water flows.

Members looked at the *Outreach and Education* section. It was decided that the list under **Projects, Workshops, Seminars and Initiatives** should add: **(See APPENDIX)** and the list should move to the Appendix. Pam to edit this and the Testing Section.

Pam suggested that Ordinance Review should be coordinated with Planning Board and Mandy or Matt should be invited to Budget discussions.

3.2 Website (NEXT MEETING)

- a. New updates

4.0 New Business (NEXT MEETING)

- a. Building Needs Request for Green Building recommendations
- b. Subcommittees

5.0 Public Comment - None

6.0 Next meeting:

Working Session: Thursday, March 10 @ 4:30.

Regular Meeting: Thursday, March 24th @ 5:00

7.0 Adjournment - 6:20 PM

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