

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
SUDBURY PONDS AND WATERWAYS COMMITTEE

Date: November 1, 2006

Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Flynn Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Present: Susan Crane, David Blohm, Joel Singer, Ted Klein and Michael Fee

Absent: Mark Ensign, Rich Davison

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

The Committee set an agenda for the next 6 months. Priorities include (i) finalizing and delivering an initial report to the Selectmen regarding the activities of other municipal ponds and waterway groups; (ii) hiring a GIS consultant utilizing grant funds provided by the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River Stewardship Council; and (iii) finalizing and delivering to the Selectmen a draft Master Plan for preservation, remediation and utilization of town ponds and waterways. Tasks and timelines were agreed upon by the members.

Susan Crane reported on most recent permitting developments regarding the Marlborough Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant. She will prepare and circulate a written report regarding specific details, however, it appears that state, federal and local officials have collaborated in crafting a regulatory scheme that will significantly limit future phosphorus discharge into the Hop Brook system. This is an important development toward permanent remediation and restoration of the Hop Brook system.

Joel Singer, Ted Klein and Michael Fee reported regarding PWC participation in Sudbury Day. David Blohm's outstanding photographs were a great draw, and attracted

a great deal of attention and admiration. Twenty residents signed up for e-mail updates regarding PWC activities, and several of expressed interest in becoming more involved in PWC's activities. Ted Klein agreed to establish outreach protocols for communication with these interested persons, and the community in general.

The Committee evaluated options regarding utilizing grant funds provided by the River Stewardship Council. It was noted that Mark Blohm, the son of PWC member David Blohm, is both an interested and qualified candidate. David Blohm recused himself from any discussion or vote regarding the matter, and the Committee approved a recommendation that the Town hire Mark Blohm, provided he has time to work on this project in the near future and that no other qualified candidates emerge before the hiring process is completed. Another possible candidate may be the newly hired Assistant Town Planner. If Mark Blohm cannot fill the intern position, Susan Crane and Michael Fee will make further inquiries regarding the qualifications and availability of the Assistant Town Planner or other interested candidates. *Note: Subsequent to the meeting, we were informed by the Town Manager that the position should be posted on the Town's web site to ascertain whether there are other interested and qualified candidates. The position subsequently was posted and there were no responses.*

The Committee discussed recent initiatives championed by the Army Corps of Engineers, and other state and federal officials, to evaluate dam removal from ponds. Were such measures to be enacted in Sudbury Grist Mill, Carding Mill, Stearn's Mill and French Road Ponds, they would be essentially changed from standing bodies of water to flowing streams. Although such measures would likely require legislative initiatives overriding state and municipal wetlands protection by-laws, and are therefore not likely

to occur in the immediate near term, the potential impact to the Hop Brook system would be devastating, and deserves close monitoring.

The Committee discussed the Hop Brook Protection Association's positive role in the permitting process for Marlborough Easterly Waterwaster Treatment Plant, and successful fundraising efforts for Carding Mill Pond remediation. The Committee will extend an invitation to a HBPA representative to attend the next PWC meeting to discuss how our two organizations may effectively collaborate.

The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Susan Crane as chair, and David Blohm as Vice-Chair of the PWC for a term ending December 31, 2007.

The PWC's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 27, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at the DPW building. All interested residents are welcome and invited to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The members of the PWC are:

Susan Crane, Chair	sjc@susancrane.com
David Blohm, Vice Chair	dblohm@blohmgroup.com
Rick Davison	davisonrh@aol.com
Mark Ensign	mension@geiconsultants.com
Michael Fee	mfee@feelaw.com
Ted Klein	tedklein@earthlink.net
Joel Singer	joel.singer@comcast.net

They may also be reached at pwc@town.sudbury.ma.us.