

Sudbury Ponds & Waterways Committee Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2009 7:00 – 8:45 p.m., Flynn Building

Attendees: Alan Bascom, David Blohm, Mike Dufault, Steve (Gabe) Gabeler, Robert Hershfield, Mary Addonizio

Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for October 20, 2009 were approved.

About half of the November meeting was spent going through the Master Plan Punch list. We hope to have the Master Plan ready by the end December meeting.

Town Crier Article Published

Nancy Hershfield wrote a very well received article about harvesting Carding Mill Pond, with a focus on Mike O'Connor, who uses Japanese water chestnuts from the pond to fertilize a garlic farm located about a half mile away.

Potential for Other Articles

Members discussed other potential articles could focus on "green ways" of de-icing walks, to minimize salt use and curb run-off into local waterways.

Members suggested contacting Bill Place, DPW Director, (Sudbury), to discuss the good and bad points about sanding walkways and driveways.

Mike Dufault will help Nancy to search for subject matter.

Rob Hershfield will ask people at Monick Supply about various ice-melt products.

Adopt a Pond

Steve (Gabe) Gabeler was encouraged by the Sudbury Foundation to make an application for funding assistance when plans are more developed.

Topo Map Location

Gabe will contact Libby Herland, Project Leader Eastern Massachusetts National Wildlife Refuge Complex, to see if she would be interested in displaying one of the "floating" watershed maps. He will also contact Adam Miller at the Nobscot Scout Reservation about possible display of one of the watershed maps.

Input for the Sudbury Annual Town Report

Some of the activities occurred in late 2008, after we submitted info for the 2008 Annual Report

PWC members briefly outlined some of the material that we could include in the Sudbury Annual Town Report for 2009. Some of the PWC's accomplishments follow:

Eco Friendly Lawn Program

We ran the inaugural, biannual Eco Friendly Lawn Program to help protect Sudbury's ponds and waterways by minimizing the impact of lawn care on the surrounding

environment. The program was supported by River Stewardship Council grant monies to purchase lawn signs for the program, and is designed to promote water body friendly lawn care and water conservation. We created publicity for the program, and wrote an article for the Sudbury Town Crier. We also printed and distributed signs for participants to display on their lawns. We had close to 50 participants this year. Signs were approved for display beginning Earth Week, from Saturday, April 18 through Sunday, May 31, 2009 and again at the start of autumn, from Tuesday, September 1 through Wednesday, September 30, 2009.

PWC Expansion

We grew the PWC to nine members.

Topo Maps

We completed the topo maps with a grant from the Sudbury Foundation. This entailed printing, mounting, and framing the maps, which were delivered to local middle schools and public buildings for display. The PWC displayed the first topo map when the committee participated in Sudbury Day.

Duck Race

We ran the second annual Duck Race at the Wayside for the Riverfest celebration and Hop Brook.

Ponds and Waterways Multimedia Presentation

PWC members created a Ponds & Waterways multi-media presentation for middle school earth science classes at Curtis Middle School. The presentation package included a PowerPoint slide show of animal life found in Sudbury's waterways, interactive work with the watershed map, and a fun quiz based on identifying the animal life seen in the slides. The students were extremely engaged with the content and asked great questions. After the presentation, they sent the PWC colorful, hand-made thank-you cards, which were later incorporated into the PWC Sudbury Day Poster.

Town Crier Articles

The PWC began running a series of articles in the Sudbury Town Crier to raise awareness of water quality issues. Three articles have been published including "[Why stormwater matters, and how you can keep it clean.](#)" "[Going green on lawn care.](#)" "[Take me to the river.](#)" an article about recreational uses of the Town's ponds and rivers, "Garlic farmer uses compost harvested from invasive plants at Carding Mill Pond" <http://www.wickedlocal.com/sudbury/news/x1972889596/Garlic-farmer-uses-compost-harvested-from-invasive-plants-at-Carding-Mill-Pond>. More articles are planned.

Riverfest

The PWC participated in the Sudbury, Assabet, & Concord Wild & Scenic River Stewardship Council's Riverfest, promoting recreational uses of the Town's water bodies. For this we held out second annual rubber duck race for kids at the Wayside Inn.

Master Plan

Appendix 3, Dave Blohm sent Mary Addonizio new maps for incorporation.

Gabe will contact Frank Lyons for the pertinent documents for the Appendix

Mary Addonizio sent Appendix 3 to Rob Hershfield (piecemeal).

Mary will take out indents on the bulleted lists, fix the first table and reformat it, take out notes on the first page, have appendices 3 and 4 refer to the web site.

Rob provided a map of the Merrimack River and a reference.

Next Meeting Dates

- Monday, 12/14/09
- Tuesday, 1/19/2010
- Tuesday, 2/16/2010

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm