

**CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – February 7, 2013**

Minutes of the meeting held by the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee on February 7, 2013, beginning at 1 PM in the Sharon Community Center, 219 Massapoag Avenue, Sharon, MA.

Members present: Wayne P. Southworth, Easton; Janice L. Fowler, Easton; John Fresh, Jr; Robert Boette, Foxborough; Jonathan Rowe; Norton; Jenn Carlino, Norton; Frances Shirley, Norton.

Guests: Eric Hooper, Sharon DPW; Paul Lauenstein, Sharon Water Committee; Adrienne Edwards, Easton GIS Specialist; John Shannon, Mansfield resident; Sarah Chefitz, Sharon TV.

1. Call to Order - Southworth called the meeting to order at 1 PM and noted same is to be televised by the Sharon Access Cable.

2. Moment of Silence in Memory of Susan Mims – a member of the CRAAC.

3. Review Minutes of December 6, 2012 - Boette/Shirley moved to accept the minutes of December 6, 2012. VOTED

4. Sharon Water Quality and Adequacy Update – Eric Hooper, Public Works Superintendent

Southworth gave a short background. Hooper: “Pave the planet and make it one world, one people and one slab of asphalt”; feel it is the presumption people have of the DPW; DPWs have a long history; reviewed public water supply mandate; our requirement is perfect water; reviewed map of rainfall; when it rains you have infiltration or runoff – the goal is to make runoff as clean as possible; from runoff you get stream flow (two pieces - base flow and surface runoff); for Sharon I only focus on infiltrated groundwater; reviewed water supply achievements of the 20th century – in 1919 disinfection became a major issue of the water supplies; reviewed disinfection by-products; what do you do with the by-products; showed a pumping record from 1995 to 2012; have shaved a one million per day with water restriction, give rebates, have low flow fixtures; showed map of groundwater quality and elevation; Well #4 does most of our pumping; water quality - monitoring nitrate; well 2 is a shallow well/has a lot of potential influence from people activity; over 20 years 3.9 to 4.1/4.2 - trigger point is 5m per liter. Summary – public water supply mandates perfect water, unintended consequences; uncertainty (weather/public habits); advances – 20th century; the perception of declining water quality; public water suppliers as environmental stewards – we have been in this business for 200 years. Final unknown – how to set rates and charges for services.

Discussion: concern of this committee is the condition of the river and quality; what about storm water (Hooper: in what comes out off the road, studies have been done on fish populations, etc.; have to look at what is coming off our roads; storm water component is now becoming the focus – there is legislation to remove phosphorus from fertilizers; we do not have industry in this town); medicines (Hooper: these have always been there; now we can detect them in small concentrations); manganese (Hooper: the focus is on removing same from drinking water; it is in baby formula; is expensive to treat; if you do not want it in your water, it will cost you); lawn watering (Hooper: have mandatory regulations); short discussion on semi-block rates (our populations have probably risen but the costs have decreased, but more treatment is being asked for).

Southworth thanked Mr. Hooper for coming and asked if there was any issue we can be of assistance. Hooper: the well we use the least is in the Canoe River Aquifer which is in the Taunton River Basin; Boston focuses more on the Neponset River; need to introduce the other watersheds into Boston.

5. Open Space Map and Greenbelt Update: Carlino: have two donations but neither are in the Canoe River; one is on the Wading River and the other on the Crooked Meadow.

6. January 23rd Mansfield Planning Board Meeting Regarding the Re-delineation of the Zone 2 Map for Mansfield - Southworth and Canoe River members attended this meeting; were lucky enough for someone to pay for the Zone 2 map; it did change the delineation a little; overall think the benefits will pay off for the Town of Mansfield.

7. Proposal for a Solar Panel Installation of the Barbato Property in Foxboro - Short discussion. Do not think there is any need for our committee to discuss this.

8. Discussion of Iron, Manganese, Sodium and Bacteria Levels in Water Supplies - Southworth: Joan Sozio had contacted our office to have this placed on the agenda, but cannot be with us today; our next meeting is in Foxborough in two months; hopefully we can have a discussion like Eric Hooper did for us today. Boette: recently this has gotten worst; it has become an issue; certain areas of Town have been hit hard; will contact superintendent and will confirm room.

9. 2013 Canoe River Awareness Day - Southworth: have not heard anything about available dates; did talk to the water superintendent and they are going to have an open house at the treatment plant but it is not adjacent to the Canoe River; will work with Ed Tartufo; looking to have it in Mansfield hopefully in the month of May or June 1st.

10. Discuss Committee Goals - Southworth: think meeting with Eric Hooper is the start of one of our goals; Highlights: if we have the water suppliers come in, have it on cable also; guest speakers to educate us; could look into who is running the sole source program; ask each department to have the Canoe River and Soil Source Aquifer placed on a site review list for each department that has to review same. Carlino presented an overview of all the goals discussed to date.

11. Next Meeting at Foxboro Town Hall - in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

12. Public Comment - None.

13. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM