

**CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 2, 2015**

Minutes of the meeting held by the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee on April 2, 2015, beginning at 1 PM in the Mansfield Town Offices, Room 3-A-B, 6 Park Row, Mansfield, MA.

**Members present:** Wayne P. Southworth, Easton; Janice L. Fowler, Easton; John Fresh, Jr., Easton; Robert Boette, Foxborough; Arthur Reynolds, Foxborough; Jenn Carlino, Norton; Frances Shirley, Norton; David Masciarelli, Sharon.

**Guests:** Sally Fehervari, Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield, Inc.; Shaun Burke, Mansfield Director of Planning & Development.

**1. Call to Order** - Southworth called the meeting to order at 1 PM.

**2. Review Minutes of February 5, 2015** – French/Fowler moved to accept the minutes of February 5, 2015. VOTED

**3. Shaun Burke, Mansfield Director of Planning & Development re: Mansfield Development** - gave an update on what we have doing in Mansfield: back in the early 90's, we issued over 200 permits for homes; four years ago we issued 12 in one year; what is different now – rather than the single family zones, the building is happening to downtown and it is condominiums near the train station; the train station has become a huge draw; not everyone wants a \$800,000 single family house but want to live in Mansfield; everyone does not want to drive to the train station; there are 81 units proposed now – all rental; where we are now is it's all happening downtown that is market driven not planned; they are taking advantage of zoning written 20 years ago; we did mix use by right; we have a inclusionary bylaw – the 6<sup>th</sup> unit has to be affordable then everyone thereafter; we are above our affordable housing goals; in our definition of affordable, there is a local preference; a few years ago, we designed a Zone 2 in East Mansfield (it was scientifically done).

Comments/Questions: the development you are talking about – is all sewer; lots are smaller; an interesting fact about condos is the higher you go, the less school children you have; (Burke) – I think from a land use perspective it will be a great change for the Town of Mansfield and to the people who grow up here; what kind of parking arrangement: Business District 1 ½ spaces per unit, cumulative total, Business 2 District – 2 spaces per unit, the closer to the train station the less like they will have two cars; will there be a parking structure for the train – probably not as the T has no money; private parking – estimated costs for one spot is between \$17,000 to \$24,000 a year or more; there is a need for bike parking closer to the station – a study has been done; what about a couple of zip cars, more bike racks downtown, a nice restaurant and solar panels on roof – we did a statistic plan in 2012 and the number one priority was keeping the Cabot Park, solar use was taken into consideration.

Fehervari noted one of the things that is being done now is looking at the Cabot Business Park; traffic counts do not support a 90' layout, there is 17 lane miles of road, the road could be reduced to two lanes with a shared bike path, it would reduce the cost to Mansfield tremendously.

**4. Sally Fehervari, Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield, Inc. – Request for Event Participation**  
On May 16<sup>th</sup> hosting a "Into the Woods Open House"; would like to invite someone to come to our open house and talk a little about the Canoe River; the other venue is 'Family Fund Night'; it is a highly educational event – again would like to have you drop by. Fehervari thanked us for inviting her to attend our meeting today.

**5. 2015 Annual Awareness Day – Saturday May 2, 2015 10am-noon at the Future Water Treatment Plant** - Jenn Carlino suggested we have this in Norton because of the archeological discovery done as part of the future water treatment plant; the speaker (Peter Mair, II, Senior Archaeologist with the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.) has confirmed; will set up display and refreshments at the Gertrude Cornish Town Forest, Plain Street, Norton,

**6. Open Space Map and Greenbelt Update** - nothing new

**7. Jan Fowler – Reaffirm Goals and Informative Document**

Committee reviewed the comments and suggestions noted in the April 2, 2015 document in agenda item listed above (to be attached).

Comments: for a long time the Committee maintained a time line – fearful we will lose that history; could send that time line along with legislation to each town; people love maps; introducing ourselves to the various departments has been positive; we are getting to the point where we will not be able to continue; another thing is our Library at the Easton Water Department, need to archive what we have for in the future we will have different people, there is a public record of our minutes and agendas; should photograph some of the things we have been given over the years; over the years we have had different programs with the colleges; need to consolidate what we have.

**8. Discuss Committee Goals - see Item 7.**

**9. Next Meeting in Easton** – please pay attention to where it will be held.

**10. Public Comment** – bridge on Red Mill Road is going to be studied as to what it would take to open the road; if they take the culvert out, it will let the alewives upstream into Norton and Easton; would have to come thru the Easton side.

**11. Adjourn** - Fowler/Boette moved to adjourn. VOTED. Meeting adjourned at 2:12 PM.

## **CRAAC Meeting – April 2, 2015**

### **Agenda Item 7 – Jan Fowler – Reaffirm Goals and Informative Document**

Excerpt from Document – “Coalition of Partners Through Intermunicipal Relationships”

SECTION#3: The Canoe River Aquifer Watershed is hereby defined as the watershed area outlined as the Canoe River Watershed on the aquifer protection study map, Town of Easton, MA, dated 1986, Plate #2, completed by L.E.P., Inc., said watershed being within the boundaries of Easton, Mansfield, Norton and Foxborough. (Amended to add “Sharon”)

Said committee shall advise the board of selectmen, planning boards, and other boards, committees, agencies of member towns relative to developments, conservation, and zoning within the Canoe River Aquifer.

Section #4: any plan submitted for the development of any land within the Canoe River shall be submitted to said committee at the time of submission to the planning board, conservation commissions, boards of health, or any other local agencies having similar jurisdiction in the towns of Easton, Mansfield, Norton, Foxborough and Sharon. Said committee shall study such plans and shall report its findings and recommendations, if any, to the respective local board or agency having such jurisdiction prior to the decision of such board or agency ...”

**COMMENTS:**

1. Review of what has happened in the past.
  - A. Lands acquired
  - B. Meeting with departments heads including GIS Departments
  - C. Open houses
  - D. Applicant voluntarily coming in for a plan review
  - E. Members who work for the Water Departments & other town depts.
  - F. Allies – ex: land trust groups
  - G. Note Committee's limited resources, time and 'power'

**SUGGESTIONS:**

- A. 30<sup>th</sup> Year anniversary will be in 2017 – refresh memories by including a copy of our legislation in any document we send.
- B. As the workforce grows and retires, new members will come on board; give them a copy of the legislation.
- C. Check to see if maps of the Canoe River are posted for public viewing.
- D. Every so many years, send a copy of legislation to concerned departments, as they too will have new members.
- E. Continue to interact with the various town departments.
- F. Be aware, as we (CRAAC) grow older, what our role should be in implementing the law we were charged with.