

**CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – June 2, 2016**

Minutes of the meeting held by the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee on June 2, 2016 beginning at 1 PM at the Sharon Community Center, 219 Massapoag Avenue, Sharon, MA.

Members present: Wayne P. Southworth, Easton; Janice L. Fowler, Easton; John Fresh, Jr., Easton; Robert Boette, Foxborough; John Shannon, Mansfield; Jenn Carlino, Norton; Linda Kollett, Norton; Frances Shirley, Norton; David Masciarelli, Sharon; Gregory Meister, Sharon.

Guests: Thomas Borden and Paul McDivitt, Watershed Counts; Michael Schmitt, Intern Wheaton College.

1. Call to Order - Southworth called the meeting to order; members introduced themselves to guests.

2. Review Minutes of April 7, 2016 - Boette/Carlino voted to accept the minutes of April 7, 2016. VOTED

3. Thomas Borden and Paul McDivitt, Interview for Watershed Counts – Borden: in the mist of doing a watershed report on headwaters (hope to put something out by mid-July); also doing little key studies of groups that make this happen. Southworth – introduced our new intern Michael Schmitt, whose purpose is to develop a state approved resource management plan.

Southworth: the Canoe River is in an Area of Critical Environmental Concern and a Federal Sole Source Aquifer; explained how the committee started – Norton was looking to start a well right on the Easton/Norton town line, talking we realized water does not know political boundaries, wrote legislation to help protect this aquifer, legislation stated there shall be three members appointed from each of the five communities, met every month, now every other, have the authority to review plans and comment on them (due to volume only review those that have a significant impact), have been very successful in developing a greenbelt along the river, do not have a budget, would work with Conservation Commissions and other land groups to protect land.

McDivitt: how did you bring all the groups together? Members: it is unique that the five town are similar; we have shared things over the years; ran seminars but lifestyles have changed and attendance has dropped off; tried some videos which we then sent out to all the towns; during awareness days we reached out to other groups (ex: Bass Pro Shops) but this did not have a long term effect; produced a large map of the aquifer which is taken to most events.

Borden: what are you doing for your 30th anniversary? Southworth: had nice celebrations for our 20 and 25th; looking to do something like that; this may be more of a challenge to do something as this committee has no budget.

McDivitt: what do you see for the next 30 years? Southworth: will send our timeline to you; continue our Facebook page.

4. ACEC Resource Management Plan with Wheaton College Intern, Michael Schmidt

Southworth: welcomed the intern. Carlino: we have been talking about drafting a resource management plan; this is the second week; have drafted an outline so far; hopefully we can meet in between our next meeting due to time restraints.

Schmidt: gave us a little of his background; first internship at a Conservation Department; asked questions required in application. Example: Main goal – the goal is in our legislation, which is to try and protect the aquifer. Noted: it is important for people to realize where their water comes from; anything you do to the surface effects our groundwater; think this plan is going to be more of a tool to the Conservation Commission; should review the five town's bylaws to see if they have one(s) that protect their aquifer.

5. October 6, 2016 Watershed Conference with EPA - Southworth reviewed status and timing. Fresh/Carlino voted to postpone this item to the future. VOTED

6. Legislation Update – noted that the legislation has been approved under Ch. 112 Acts of 2016; will send a copy of this legislation to each of the Town Clerks in the five towns; at some point would like to recognize Claire Cronin and Louis Kafka for their help – maybe have them come to a meeting.

7. Recap of Annual Awareness DAY– had a small table and the large map of the Canoe River at the Easton Water Department's open house.

8. Open Space Map and Greenbelt Update - Carlino noted the Mims' property and Houghton Pond have been sold. Masciarelli: working on a property, as we own land nearby; have done an appraisal.

9. Plan for 2017 30th Anniversary Celebration – Southworth: think we are down to two locations: Sharon Community Center or the Chateau, Norton; date could be anytime in 2017, probably early in the year. Concerns: getting funding; might have to charge people; speaker (representative, senator); need to review our distribution list; have available the first and most current map of the ACEC on display.

10. Jan Fowler – Committee Introduction Letter - letter to be mailed to all members.

11. Discuss Committee Goals - have a redesign of our logo contest instead of a poster contest; get some gift cards for prizes.

12. Next Meeting in Foxborough.

13. Public Comment – None.

14. Adjourn - Fresh/Shannon moved to adjourn. VOTED. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

NOTE: election of officers at the next meeting.