

Minutes – 2229 Main St. Committee Meeting – 12 February 2018

Present: Paul Boehm, Ray Bruttomesso, Pam Rockwell (Chair), Judy Zanubrecher

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM.

The minutes of the 2 January 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The upcoming meeting between the EPA and the town on February 14 was discussed. Dr. Boehm outlined the draft agenda and the prospective attendees.

The discussion included that the consent decree had not been signed at this point in time. It is the Department of Justice that gets the parties together with respect to the Consent Decree, not the EPA. Elaine Stanley, Project Manager, of the EPA indicated to Dr. Boehm when they spoke that even when the Consent Decree is signed there is a comment period before work could be continued.

It was indicated that the town may have concerns regarding timing. The prime objective is to get the site cleaned up. Ms. Rockwell indicated that a benefit of the town taking ownership would be the ability to work with the EPA regarding planning redevelopment. Concerns include how the liens, including those held by the DOE (Department of Energy) and the EPA would be handled. It was also indicated that different parties have different views regarding the progress that has occurred on the site; for example, town residents believe that work has been dragging and others may see as consistent with or faster than other projects.

Dr. Boehm indicated that in his speaking with Ms. Stanley of the EPA, she indicated that there is a Superfund Redevelopment Initiative fund. This funding is used to assist in determining a plan related to future use of the site. The committee would need to gather additional details. However, if there is a requirement of matching funds, the warrant article may provide such funding.

The discussion then focused on the meeting with the Select Board in November. It was apparent that the Select Board had concerns regarding assuming liability of the property. Also, the issue of liens was raised. One member indicated that the town might have some hesitation based on issues related to the Grace site and the potential for using the site for buses.

While none of the committee members indicated that they had expertise regarding the field, a brief discussion regarding the benefits and the detriments of taking the property by tax lien in contrast to eminent domain was discussed. The discussion was based in part on statements made during the 2017 meeting between the town and the EPA.

The hearing on March 5 related to article 28 and the need for slides was discussed. Dr. Boehm indicated that he thought his slides used in the November presentation provided the proper message on looking forward and development versus looking back.

The discussed turned to opportunities to educate the town regarding the site, the current status, and the warrant articles. Items discussed included updating the website, letters to the editors of the Concord Journal, and new fact sheets. There are various organizational fact sheets currently including the EPA, the committee for the town meeting, and the Crew fact sheet.

The final item on the agenda was the discussion regarding updated water sampling near the 2229 Main Street site and the Acton well. Ms. Kim Kastens, a member of committee interested in Acton water, discussed the data. It was agreed that it is beneficial that *de maximis* provides the data and that questions regarding the data should be raised at the next technical meeting.

It was raised that in addition to the parties that already have liens, there may be charges assessed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for Natural Resources Damages. The funds can be used to support local land projects.

Ms. Rockwell indicated that in that the site has PCB, the amount of soil required to be removed likely will only be slightly more under the residential standard versus an industrial standard.

Andrea Zall of the Finance Committee was also in attendance at the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Bruttomesso