

## **2229 Main Street Oversight Committee (the Committee) Meeting Minutes for January 05, 2021**

### **Persons Attending**

**Committee Members:** Chair Pam Rockwell, Deborah Farnsworth, Nick Pappas, Fred Seward, and Len Rappoli.

**Town Officials:** Selectperson Liaison Matthew Johnson, and Administrative Assistant Karen Byrne

**Visitors:** Tim Rose, and Amity Wilczek

The meeting was called to order at 1830 in accordance with Zoom protocol.

### **Items Discussed**

**Previous Minutes:** The Committee approved the minutes from November 2019 pending one slight correction. In reference to the Committee the word Advisory will be replaced with the word Oversight.

No other minutes were available because the Committee has not met due to COVID 19.

**Reuse Planning Committee Draft Report:** The Committee discussed this report at length with emphasis on Risk Communication; that is, what options are available to allay concerns of Town residents over remaining contamination at 2229 Main Street (the Site). It was noted that Risk Communication is not a simple process as there are opinions in Concord that the Site not be used for residential purposes.

It was suggested that persons may not feel comfortable about going on a site where additional contamination might be found later. Visitor Tim Rose wondered how do we know that additional contamination might not be discovered and said that this question needs to be addressed at part of Risk Communication. Whoever delivers the Risk Communication message must be a trusted person to those who are hearing it.

One possible approach to Risk Communication is to emphasize that the Site has been monitored and tested as much or more than any property in the area, and much is known about soil and groundwater conditions. While there may be a possibility of some as yet undiscovered contamination, the Potentially Responsible Parties have been quick to respond to mitigate. Examples are the discovery of 1,4-Dioxane in groundwater and most recently the detection of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in Site wells.

Another approach to Risk Communication might be to link trails on the Site with trails that are already utilized in the area. The feeling is that once people are on the Site, they will get more comfortable with it.

The Committee consensus is that the Reuse Planning Committee has done a good job in preparing their draft report.

**Draft Annual Committee report:** Committee members reviewed the draft report describing activities at the Site during 2020. There were no comments other than the annual report was well written. Chair Pam will submit it to the Town.

**PFAS Sampling in November 2019:** November 2019 was the first time PFAS sampling has been done at the Site. A map showing sampling locations and data tables are available. PFAS concentrations are

highest in bedrock proximally downgradient of the Holding Basin. Concentrations decrease steadily further downgradient from the Holding Basin. At the Assabet River concentrations are below the newly established Massachusetts Maximum Contaminant (MMCL) Level of 20 nanograms per liter (ng/l). However, north of the river at the Town of Acton production well Assabet 1A the PFAS concentration spikes. This spike suggests a second source area north of the river which may be the WR Grace site. There was a question as to what extent the PFAS will be remediated, the MMCL limit of 20 ng/L or the EPA Health Advisory of 70 ng/l. This is a question for de maximus.

**Other Considerations:**

Pam will ask Bruce Thompson about having an upcoming meeting.

The next scheduled Committee meeting will be a Zoom meeting on March 2, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted

Leonard V. Rappoli