

Minutes – 2229 Main St. Committee Meeting – 5 February 2019

Present: Ray Bruttomesso, Pam Rockwell (Chair), Len Rappoli, Fred Seward

Guest: Kim Kastens (Acton Water Committee); Linda Escobedo (Select Board)

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

It was noted that the last set of minutes on the town website were from February 12, 2018.

There was no meeting on November 14, 2018.

The minutes from the March 14, 2018 meeting were approved.

The upcoming February 13 EPA technical group meeting was discussed. Ms. Rockwell, Mr. Rappoli, and Mr. Seward are planning to attend. In addition to the meeting, there will be a tour of the new ground water treatment building. The location of the building is on Knox Trail, across the Assabet River from the site.

It is anticipated that part of the EPA technical meeting is the discussion of the 1,4-dioxane remediation. The committee and Ms. Kastens, from the Acton Water Committee, discussed that some of the sample wells were showing high 1,4-dioxane in the bedrock in some locations. The issue is the source of the 1,4-dioxane. Various theories were raised including porosity and fractures in the bedrock. The number on the figure for the bedrock are shown in blue.

It was recommended to keep monitoring the values and ask that the values be reported out by *de maximis* in that in certain areas, the overburden level is less than 1 and at the same location the bedrock value is higher. It was raised that it would be beneficial to have a trend analysis graph of the levels.

The EPA has reported to Ms. Rockwell that the Consent Decree has been signed by all the principle responsible parties (PRP) and participating agencies. The Consent Decree is awaiting a signature from the Department of Justice. It was noted by several members that the consent decree for the building removal was delayed for several years awaiting a similar signature; the process sped up once StarMet abandoned the buildings and the site.

If a plan is developed prior to this consent decree, the plan could be used to potentially influence the scope of work, which is currently in draft, and the remediation design. For example, if areas are designated for building and field area, clean fill from the site could be moved to save potential funds in the future. In addition, the roads used in the removal of material, if properly located, could be used for future roads.

Bruce Thompson of *de maximis* has indicated that he has developed a budgeted plan which would take five years to complete the clean-up of the site. The limiting factor in part is how many trucks per day can leave the site with material, including soil. The question of where the material would be transported was raised. Ms. Rockwell indicated that the destination was not known at this point and one of the factors is where the trucks need to bring the

material for rail shipping. Ms. Rockwell believed that it would likely take less time than planned once the process had begun.

The next item on the agenda was how the committee can encourage Town redevelopment plans for the site. The issue of the new town committee to address site re-use was raised. Select Board member Ms. Escobedo indicated that she would get an update at one of the upcoming Select Board meetings. The committee was to draw members from various committees including the 2229 Main Street Committee, as well as additional community members.

There was some confusion on what had transpired last year regarding the formation of the committee. Some committee members were of the opinion that the Site Planning Committee had already been formed but not filled.

A discussion of committees that will be interested in the property included the West Concord Advisory Committee, Comprehensive Long Range Plan Committee, Recreation Commission, and the various housing committees. Mr. Todd Benjamin, chair of the Affordable Housing Funding Committee has toured the site.

Dr. Boehm had indicated an interest in the committee. Mr. Bruttomesso indicated that while he had expressed interest previously, he was not sure if he could support the committee at this time in that the U.S. Navy may be sending him to Washington, DC for an extended period.

Ms. Rockwell indicated that all of the members of the 2229 Main Street Committee had reached the end of their term.

It was indicated that the EPA has contracted Skeo to support the process. A timeline had previously been proposed to the Select Board by the committee to work with Skeo. Ms. Rockwell proposed that the Site Planning Committee develop a plan that could be presented in the April 2020 town meeting, especially if the proposal is some kind of public private partnership.

Skeo is supposed to facilitate the development of a reuse plan. It was stressed they had been hired already by the EPA and they are on the clock. Ms. Rockwell was attempting to facilitate a meeting between the group and town officials. It was raised if it would be possible to have the meeting occur after the technical group meeting on the 13th. Ms. Escobedo indicated that she did not think it would be possible. It was stressed again by the committee that now is the time to start planning.

It was discussed who in the town staff should be included. It was suggested that Ms. Marcia Rasmussen, Director of Planning & Land Management. Ms. Rockwell inquired if Mr. Chris Whelan, town manager would be interested in attending.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by Ray Bruttomesso