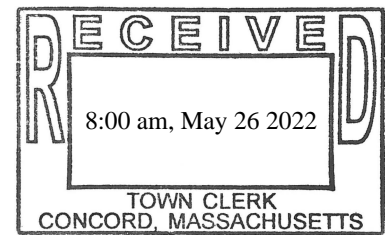


White Pond Advisory Committee
Remote Meeting
4/27/22



Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

WPAC in attendance: Beth Kelly, Josh Galper, Cheryl Baggen, Jim Ricker, Jeff Parker

Other Attendees: Alan Cathcart: CPW Director, Stephen Dookran: Town Engineer, Katy Blair, David Bearg, Marya Piasecki, Mary Hartman Select Board, Marybeth Parker, Wendy Slattebo, Jane Prentiss, Susan Bates Select Board.

Minutes of March 2022 meeting approved.

Action items from previous meeting:

DPOA sent notice to its members regarding the need for parking passes and expectations regarding illegal parking.

No information from Selectboard regarding letter to State concerning fish stocking.

Discussion on Sewage Treatment in White Pond Watershed with Alan Cathcart Concord Public Works Director

Alan Cathcart - Sewage treatment is a complex issue. One-third of Concord is served by the Town's sewage treatment plant. White Pond area is remote from areas currently served by the Town's Treatment Plant

In the year 2000, a study was done because of the limited capacity of existing sewage treatment plants. Treatment plant is near Great Meadows. Package treatment facilities are now required for new developments that require sewage treatment. White Pond was identified in 2002 as a high need area as individual owners could not do much to mitigate the issues associated with nutrient load. However, at this time the Town had difficulty finding a location for a package treatment plant. Much effort was made to look at the issue and interest in resolving the issue. Josh noted that WPAC has previously reviewed the history of Town's consideration of sewage for White Pond area.

- Alan noted the potential issues and stated that currently there are no municipal treatment plants in private ways and if sewage treatment was considered, storm water drainage would also likely be considered at the same time.
- Josh - Unlike in the past, today residents are conscious of how the values of their homes might be affected if there were ongoing toxic algae blooms near their homes.
- Alan - Envision Concord creates a visionary road map of Town needs. Town management must prioritize the needs, considering both budget and staff.
- Impact of septic systems on the Pond is measurable - Alan noted that one possible way of getting the matter started is to have the White Pond community (or an Association) do the legwork and then make a proposal to the Town. Another way is for the residents to make the case to the Town so that the Town begins consideration of the issue. Cathcart expects that it would take 5-10 years to get a plan in place.
- Jim Ricker - Could the town be held liable for failure to take care of White Pond? Alan did not think so.

Considerations:

- If funded and approved - are their ways for the Town to force people to hook up to a system. Concern of unintended growth.
- Jeff stated that the whole Town benefits from a clean White Pond so the betterment should be spread widely.
- In response to a question by Beth, Alan stated that he would need funds and directions from the Town to start any consideration of a plan.

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- Jane Prentiss suggested that there could be a pilot discussion with abutters to White Pond to see if they would be interested in opting into a sewage treatment system.
- Beth asked about developing a feasibility study which could include a comprehensive study of runoff into the Pond. Alan stated that if such a study was done, it would require input from the highway department.
- Steve Dookran - a number of requests from folks regarding private ways needing repairs associated with drainage. The Highway Department is trying to come up with a program where the Town can assess what is needed regarding private ways and then develop an appropriate betterment charge to cover the cost of improving the draining system on private ways.
- Alan stated that some homeowners have used private funding to improve their private ways, rather than waiting for a Town fix. There are advantages and disadvantages to using private contractors. Private groups may get better pricing - but private citizens might not get the best design and oversight.
- Marya Piasecki noted that Shore Drive was improved with support of Town Staff and there was a betterment fee.
- Jane P.- In her opinion, would rather rely on the Town as the Town would require proper oversight and would integrate the drainage system. Not just the paved way, but the shoulders need to be considered.
- Beth suggested that at the next meeting WPAC discuss the concept of "betterments."

Signage / Acknowledgement

Eagle Scout Christian Perotta (with NRC Will Holden) is working on more permanent signs. This will happen in May. WPAC acknowledges and thanks both for their work on this project.

Volunteerism / Acknowledgement

WPAC acknowledged and thanked Katie Blair and David Bearg for all the work that they have done over the decades to protect White Pond.

Select Board / Acknowledgement

WPAC thanked Susan Bates for her work with WPAC.

Water testing group.

- Decision made that all data from APOD, and chemical and water testing will be provided to NRC and BOH. Gabi White (BOH) will build a site on the Concord web page that can be used by all parties to view data. Josh suggested that WPAC would want to have access to this data on a timely basis.
- Beth confirmed that APOD will be put in the pond and water quality testing will commence in May 2022.

Town Beach

- Marya - construction has stopped and wondered why. Susan Bates. Not aware of why construction stopped.
- Beach is expected to be completed 5/30. Will Holden and Eagle Scout group have taken out old signs.
- Concerns from multiple residents about how the shrubs were planted and ability to hold water.

ACTION ITEM: Beth to contact Kerry Lafleur and ask for beach project contact now that Kate Hodges is gone to obtain answers to questions about why construction stopped and watering.

Other issues

- Josh - BFRT Committee has access from trail to Pond on its agenda. The Trails Committee is very aware of WPAC's concerns about access to the Pond. Nothing currently stopping folks from leaving trail to access the Pond. Old Picard Trust - sent email to Town representatives asking to be involved in the consideration of how to fence the BFRT.

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- The Selectboard/Town has not responded to WPAC recommendation that the parking lot gate be closed each night. No answer. Concerned about management of visitors during off peak seasons and at night.

ACTION ITEM

Jim will resend the email he previously sent to the Recreation Department requesting that the gate be closed

Adjournment

WPAC meeting adjourned 8:35 PM.