

Danvers River Committee
Thursday September 20, 2018
Meeting Minutes

The Danvers River Committee held a public meeting on Thursday September 20, 2018 Visitor's Center Conference Room, Endicott Park, Danvers MA, at 6:00pm.

Member(s) present: Aileen L'Abbe, Chairwoman
Bill Fouhey
Joan George
Dan DeLorenzo
Bob Moore
Matthew Byrne
Louie George
Bill Nicholson

Member(s) absent: Gardner Trask, Selectman Liaison

Staff Present: Christopher Sanborn, Harbormaster
Carolann Powers, Secretary
Stephen King, Town Engineer
Sharon Clement, Program Engineer

Media Present: None

Other: Emily Scerbo, Tighe & Bond
Natalie Koncki, Tighe & Bonde
Ellena Christopoulous, Observer

Aileen L'Abbe called meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

Secretary's Report:

The committee was asked to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2018 meeting.

Motion: Made by Bill Nicholson, seconded by Matt Byrne to accept the minutes of the August 16, 2018; All in favor 8:0.

New Business:

Aileen L'Abbe welcomed Stephen King, Town Engineer and Emily Scerbo of Tighe & Bond who came to the meeting to inform attendees about the General Permit requirements and review the proposed Stormwater Management Program and BMPs. They encouraged discussion and solicited feedback on the draft NOI in accordance with EPA's General Permit Section 2.3.3.

They explained to the group that the Town of Danvers is required to prepare and submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to request authorization for stormwater discharges under the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) General Permit by October 1, 2018. The NOI must include information about the Town's status of compliance with the expired 2003 General Permit, a summary of waterbodies within Town that receive stormwater discharges, and best management practices (BMPs) the Town will implement to address six minimum control measures required by the General Permit. The NOI will constitute the Town's Stormwater Management Program (SWMP), which will be further described in a written Plan.

This public meeting is being held to inform attendees about the General Permit requirements, review the proposed Stormwater Management Program and BMPs, and encourage discussion and solicit feedback on the draft NOI in accordance with EPA's General Permit Section 2.3.3. The documents/Powerpoint presentation from this meeting may be viewed at the Danvers Engineering Office, 1 Burroughs Street, Danvers, MA 01923 during regular business hours or on the Danvers Civil Engineering website <https://www.danversma.gov/departments/engineering-division/>

In 2003 a law was passed to require towns to follow this plan. As part of the plan towns are required to present and public meeting to educate the public through outreach which is the main reason we are here tonight. Danvers is currently looking for feedback regarding this NOI. It was again noted that tonight's presentation will be online on Town of Danvers website under the Engineering Division. There you will find a Stormwater Management tab that links directly to the presentation

The group was informed that this plan targets municipal properties and rights of way access.

Louie George suggested the idea of the town possibly implementing a storm water utilities tax fee that applies to impervious surface. This concept is not that widespread in New England, but is in other regions of the Country such as the Washington D.C. area, but is becoming more prevalent in the North East. It unfortunately can be hard politically to implement such a tax.

Dan DeLorenzo asked how the town's outfall samplings have been historically. Emily said overall good and that only a handful of concerns have been found and all concerns have been addressed.

The committee also inquired as to the number of those on septic in town as well as sump pump discharge that may be contributing to stormwater outfalls.

Matt Byrne asked how they test the outflows. Steve King said they test on both dry and wet days to gain a varied sample.

Old Business:

Chris update the committee on the status of the Crane River Bank Stabilization project. Steve King Town Engineer offered to update the committee on the status of the project. The town has contacted GZA who bought out Vine Associates who did past project. He updated committee on the permitting status. The town will need two consultants for the plan. Once the project is bid they can use one consultant and hopefully one or two contractors. Currently the town is looking to move forward with GZA.

Bill F. asked the timeline of when the work could possibly begin on this project. Chris said all permitting must be in place first prior to applying for grants. Once we know where we stand financially with any grants we can pursue other funds. Money for design and engineering purposes has been earmarked but no further funds have been secured for this project. The town hopes to move forward with the pier project at Crane River Marina along with the bank stabilization project.

Steve King said he will send Chris pictures from Bob Parsons with CDM of a wall they installed at Forest River Park in Salem, MA that is a hybrid solution; which is similar to what the town of Danvers hopes to have approved for installation.

Chris also updated the group on the status of the potential project at Sandy Beach-River St. vacant Lot. Nick Campion Assistant Recreation Director, Aaron Henry Director of Land Use and Community Services & Chris have been working with a consultant and have discussed several exciting ideas for this area. Depending on the priority list of projects in town will dictate when this project can be considered and completed.

Louie G. mentioned that there are likely some restrictions as to what the town could use that area for. Chris S. agreed and said they have passed along that information to the consultant who will look into any restrictions and keep those in mind for planning purposes.

Motion: Motion made by Bill Nicholson, seconded by, to Bill Fouhey, to adjourn the meeting of September 20, 2018. All in favor: 8:0 All in favor: 8:0

cc: Steve Bartha, Town Manager
David Mountain, Recreation Director