

**Selectmen's Task Force on Local Pollution and
Phase II Stormwater Management Community Oversight Group
Minutes of Monday, February 11, 2019
Pocasset Community Building, Pocasset, MA 02559**

Committee Members: Chair Jennifer Cheyne, Stewart Bell, Christine Kane, Kim Kane, Chris Pine, and Edward Brodzinski.

Guest:

Documents

Meeting Called to Order

Chm. Cheyne called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1) Comment Period for Non-agenda Items:

Kim Kane brought up the article Plan for the Future from the Bourne Courier on January 30, and the Dog Waste and Surface Water Quality pamphlet, by the Stormwater Working Group. Jennifer Cheyne read who the members are of the Phase II Stormwater Management Program Working Group. A member of the Planning Board, employee of the Department of Public Works, an employee of the Board of Health, the Conservation Agent, the Town Planner, an employee of the Engineering Department. At one point it also included Tim Mullen from the Department of Natural Resources and the Town Administrator. Ms. Cheyne read what their purview is. They do the notice of intent and the permitting.

2) Approval Minutes of 1/14/19

Voted Stewart Bell moved and seconded by Christine Kane to approve the minutes from January 14th. Vote 6-0.

Chris Pine and Christine Kane will work on setting up a google drive for the minutes and information from the meeting for the Selectmen's Task Force on Local Pollution and Phase II Stormwater Management Community Oversight Group.

Voted Stewart Bell moved and seconded by Christine Kane to take agenda item 6 as the next item on the agenda. Vote 6-0.

6) Water quality issues the Town should address in the next 5 years

- a) Local Comprehensive Plan, Revision Drafts received
- b) Areas of Focus List(s): Develop/Review/Prioritize
- c) Action Plans: Develop/Enact specific motions

Jennifer Cheyne said that Wes Ewell sent the drafts that he discussed at the December meeting of the Selectmen's Task Force on Local Pollution and Phase II Stormwater Management Community Oversight Group with request for any suggestions, questions, notes, or corrections this group may have; and stated that he would be willing to attend another meeting if requested.

Chris Pine spoke about the Water Resources document and suggested adding the highlighted section: Former seasonal homes on lots as small as 5,000 square feet are now being replaced or converted to year-round dwellings that exacerbate the problems of on-site septic systems. It is crucial that Bourne work toward sewerage or improving the performance of onsite septic systems in densely developed neighborhoods, including Monument Beach, Gray Gables, Tahanto, Pocasset Heights, Patuisset, and Cedar Point.

Mr. Pine and Ms. Cheyne suggested under the Water Resources Actions to add the highlighted sections: Initiate a continuing public education program on the effects of pollution from septic systems, stormwater runoff, yard fertilization, recreational boating, pet waste, over-development, and septic system runoff.

Add an additional bullet for: Improve communications between town, state and federal officials to coordinate policies and programs related to water quality.

The committee suggested for every dog license given they should also get a dog waste pamphlet.

Jennifer Cheyne said a lot of the items on the LCP spreadsheet are not done so it doesn't represent a completed list. It seems like the water quality items weren't completed and it looks like they are not being addressed. The notes from Wes Ewell covered what we suggested in the meeting but it wasn't transferred to the new LCP drafts. We had a problem with the wording "Vigorously Support" on the bullet line: Vigorously support the Massachusetts Military Reservation pollution cleanup and on Support the Pond and Lake Stewardship (PALS) program; What does the "support" mean. That is why we had given him specifics for what that support would be. We specifically had a goal for the revised LCP to add To Adopt Comprehensive Stormwater Regulations; that isn't on the Wetlands Resources, Ocean Resources, or the Water Resources.

Ms. Cheyne said we told Wes Ewell that we would like the Bay Health Index Goal to remain in the revised plan; it isn't on the revised plan. (From Wes Ewells notes: The committee chair strongly disagreed with the idea that the policy to remediate, treat, or contain all sources of pollution in coastal embayments and waterfronts in order to attain a Bay Health Index of good to excellent is an impossible goal that should be softened. The committee would like to have that statement remain in the revised plan.)

Ms. Cheyne read from Wes Ewell's notes: The LCP should encourage town officials to take advantage of grant opportunities for pollution mitigation and prevention, and to assign or engage a person to actively pursue such grants. That wasn't included.

Kim Kane suggested to invite Wes Ewell back so we can ask him questions. Chris Pine suggested to reply to Mr. Ewell with our edits so he has a chance to review them then he can come back with answers.

Jennifer Cheyne said most of what we were sent as notes from our meeting with Wes Ewell is not in the new plan; the committee members agreed.

Jennifer Cheyne said she was given the impression that wording on some of the bulleted items was going to be worked on, but it wasn't. Ms. Cheyne questioned what is the "support" regarding the bullet point Vigorously support the Massachusetts Military Reservation pollution cleanup. What is the action step? What is Bourne's involvement in the bullet point Support the Pond and Lake Stewardship (PALS) program to compile a biological, chemical and physical profile of each fresh water pond and waterway, and continually monitor all fresh water areas for changes in the profile. What is the support?

Jennifer Cheney said the mention of the Massachusetts Military Reservation pollution cleanup is regarding the major plums that is threatening our sole source aquifer, which right now all work has been suspended by the Trump Administration, so this is a concern.

Chris Pine said recognizing it and part of this process and part of our function for this group is to hold the town accountable for these actions. Ms. Cheyne spoke about the survey and the fact that water quality is the most important issue, but it doesn't look like they are using the survey as a guide for some of their action items.

Stewart Bell spoke about the last article from the LCP regarding Economic Growth being the most important to the public.

Ms. Cheyne said one of the Water Quality Resource goals is to *Phase out use of synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides in favor of low-nitrogen organic and natural biological treatment methods*. We gave them a few ideas on how that can be turned into action steps, none of those are under the action steps. Under Wetland Resources under actions: Protect beaches, dunes, coastal banks, and salt marshes from human alteration. We should add the word human. On bulleted action item Prohibit and remove stormwater discharges into wetlands and buffer areas – by what mechanism – regulations/bylaws? Under Actively promote public awareness of the value of wetlands and the importance of protecting them. – By what mechanism? *Under Seek funding to support remediation efforts of impaired coastal embayments*. – By what mechanism - Grants? Ms. Cheyne spoke about the grant notification that Mr. Haines sent, the information meeting date and the follow up meeting to tell you how to fill out the grant had already passed. The application deadline is February 27th, we would need someone to write the grant.

Ms. Cheyne spoke about the Ocean Resource document. This action item was accomplished: *Actively pursue actions recommended in Bourne's 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Cape Cod Commission's Regional Policy Plan*. Regarding Support organizations and programs that monitor and evaluate the health of coastal waters, including the Coalition for Buzzards Bay,

Massachusetts Estuaries Project, Buzzards Bay Project and others. We don't know what "support" means. Regarding Use the Waterways Improvement Fund to support rapidly increasing costs of coastal dredging, facilities maintenance, and environmental quality activities. – Define environmental quality activities. Regarding Continue to monitor use of, and enforce regulations related to, waterfront fueling facilities, sewage pump-out stations, boats, storm drains, and septic disposal systems. This is where there should be additional regulations under the Clean Water Act. This is under our Phase II Storm Water Management Community Oversight Group. This is where the Regulation/Bylaw required under the Clean Water Act should be.

Chris Pine said some actions are more specific than others. It is worth it to question Wes Ewell if we make these more specific will it work.

Jennifer Cheyne said to the committee members if anyone has any comments, notes, suggestions, edits, to please send them to her.

Voted Stewart Bell moved and seconded by Kim Kane to enlist the Chairs efforts to communicate with Wes Ewell about our reservations with the current draft, the LCP and our disappointment and to send him a copy of the language we would like to see in the report, and to invite him to our March meeting. Vote 6-0.

6b. Areas of Focus List(s): Develop/Review/Prioritize

Jennifer Cheyne said this is what we want to keep in mind, as we work on this, we are hoping to develop a focus list and start to break that down into action plans.

3) Develop blueprint for a Report to the Selectmen

Jennifer Cheyne said the annual report I submitted to the Selectmen for the town is now available, we are on page 162. We are already into the next report because of the lag time, so as you read the report use it as a focus for what you would like to see going forward. We also spoke about doing a report for the selectmen annually or by-annually.

Chris Pine said his suggestion was that various committees get time on the Selectmen's agenda to give a report and have a dialog with them. It would be good for us to present a report to the Selectmen annually or by-annually.

Stewart Bell said we could report to them for their guidance on some issues as well as our making recommendations.

Ms. Cheyne said any officer on this committee could make a presentation to the Selectmen. We need to work on what we want to present so when we do have time in front of the Selectmen we will have substantial information that will have value.

It was suggested and agreed by the committee members to request to be put on the Selectmen's agenda and have a member from this committee give a presentation for what this committee is working on.

4) Stormwater Bylaw Regulation, Issues, Updates re: Review Compliance Reports

Jennifer Cheyne said the town website has been updated so to review the current reports go to Department – Engineering – scroll down to Stormwater, you'll see the three links: [MS4 Stormwater Permit Overview](#), [MS4 Stormwater Outfall Map](#), [MS4 Phase II Notice of Intent \(NOI\)](#). Under the Notice of Intent, it mentions under responsible parties Staff Stormwater Working Group. Our group oversees what they are doing as well as towns submitting the compliance reports. It also allows us to say what we would like to see in the reports. One of our responsibilities is to oversee these reports.

Jennifer Cheyne questioned if Edward Brodzinski found the reports on the rollover spill on the Bourne Rotary. Edward Brodzinski couldn't find the report, if they did an immediate response action, they usually do a report on immediate response actions every six months.

Edward Brodzinski said if you put the town of Bourne in and search you should get a list of all the spills in Bourne.

<https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/search/wastesite/results?TownName=BOURNE>

5) Continue plan for a second presentation, re: Joint Base Cape Cod Group Pocasset Groundwater Cleanup

Jennifer Cheyne said the committee agreed we were going to continue to talk about the plan for a second presentation – continued from the last meeting. We have an update on When. Under the When for the continue plan for a second presentation one of the Cons is the Press availability on a Saturday. Kim Kane said she will research possible available dates for June. Kim Kane questioned do we need every citizen present for the presentation, including the snowbirds?

Who:

- Pocasset Village Association Members
- Cedar Point Association Members
- Pocasset Height Association Members
- Selectmen and other appropriate Town employees: Sam Haines, etc.
- Press: Paul Gately of the Bourne Courier, Mike Rausch of the Enterprise, etc.

What:

- Focus on just one piece of what was a very large presentation
- Focus on just one presenter
- Focus on the plume coming together under Flax Pond that is headed to Hens Cove

Where:

- Pocasset Community Club, 314 Barlows Landing Rd.

When:

- Con – Press Availability on Saturday
- Possibly a Saturday at 9:30 am (starts at 9:30 a.m. - not a come and go drop in type meeting)
- Possible dates in June, based on availability – Kim Kane will research

Why:

- Of particular concern to the residents of Pocasset
- 4 homes already have undrinkable water, more being monitored
- A direct threat to Hens Cove, the condition of which is already of concern to local residents
- People with a high level of interest in a site can petition to make it a “public involvement plan” site, re: the MassDEP Waste Site Cleanup Program fact sheet
- The MCP encourages citizens to participate in the process of investigating and cleaning up contaminated properties, and requires the person performing the cleanup to provide specific opportunities to participate, re: Chapter 21E/Mass Contingency Plan fact sheet

How:

- Figure out which presenter from the Joint Base Cape Cod Group can do what. One from the National Guard and/or one from the Air Force.
- E-mail the various Association Member Groups
- Invite Selectmen and other appropriate Town employees: Sam Haines, etc.
- Seek Publicity: reach out to Paul Gately of the Bourne Courier, Mike Rausch of the Enterprise, Beth Treffeisen Cape Cod Times, etc.

Jennifer Cheyne said looking at the survey, out of the 702 responses 26 were snowbirds; 49 are not residents of Bourne, which is a small part of 702; but if those 49 are residents of Cedar Point, it may be a majority.

Kim Kane spoke about the times they had the PBA meetings on Saturday, 9:30 on a Saturday morning seemed to be the best time.

The committee members agreed that the meeting will be at the Pocasset Community Building.

Stewart Bell questioned who to request to present; the one from the National Guard and/or Air Force. Kim Kane will get in touch with Rose Forbes – Civil Engineering Center Air Force, Douglas Carson, and Lenny Pennant.

7) Future Agenda Items

- 1) Comment period for non-agenda items
- 2) Approve minutes from 2/11/19
- 3) Stormwater Bylaw Regulations
- 4) Local Comprehensive Plan, Revision Drafts - Second Meeting with Wes Ewell
- 5) Second presentation, re: Joint Base Cape Cod Group Pocasset Groundwater Cleanup
- 6) Continue recruitment of new members
- 7) Future Agenda Items
- 8) Date and time of the next meeting

8) Date and Time of Next Meeting

March 11, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pocasset Community Building

9) Adjourn

Voted Stewart Bell moved and seconded by Chris Pine to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m. Vote: 6-0

Respectfully submitted
Carole Ellis
Scribe