



Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

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Stormwater Advisory Committee
DRAFT Minutes of May 20, 2021 Meeting
Location: Online Meeting via Zoom

Members Present: Jeanne Walker, Brian McGrattan, Leah Lester, Preethi Sreeraj, Evan White (ex-officio), ,Maeghan Dos Anjos (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Ned Breed

Public Present: None

Call to order at 6:33pm

Approval of Minutes: May 20, 2021

A motion was made by Mr. McGrattan to accept the draft minutes as submitted. Mrs. Sreeray seconded the motion. The motion was passed 4-0-0.

Updates and Follow-ups

1. Waushakum Update

Ms. Dos Anjos reported that Natural Heritage approved treating the Ashland shoreline and boat lane of the pond with Triclopyr, a herbicide to control growth of some of the weeds. Our consultant could not confirm the effectiveness of the herbicide on specific species. The permit will be amended in the fall for subsequent treatments if necessary.

2. Stormwater Program Updates

Mr. White reported that, per the requirement of our permit, that 220 outfalls have been dry-weather screened. 32 outfalls have not been screened, either because they could not be located, or because the town does not have an easement to enter a property for inspection. 11 of the outfalls will have to be re-screened due to flow at the time of sampling.

Mr. White also reported that we received feedback from Fuss & O'Neill on several topics:

- We would not get credit under our MS4 permit for nutrient removal using a proprietary system, as the amount of removal is a manufacturing claim and is not verified. The committee was considering such a system for phosphate removal from Waushakum Pond.
- Fuss and O'Neill commented favorably on several other proposals such as bioswales versus tree wells, planting trees at the Warren School and the appearance of rain gardens in the winter through the use of selective plantings. They are also working on a phosphate plan for Waushakum.

Mr. White gave a brief update on progress on the demonstration rain garden on Oak St. After installation, it was realized that there is a substantial sub-surface run-off that rises to the surface at the location of the rain garden. As designed, the rain garden overflows into a brook behind the Oak Street Apartments. However, this is likely to freeze over in

48 the winter. Consequently, the DPW installed a drain into the stormwater system that can
49 be opened in the winter, preventing spillover onto Oak St.

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51 Lastly, Mr. White reviewed changes to the “Massachusetts Integrated List of Waters
52 for the Clean Water Act 2018/20 Reporting Cycle.” The only change impacting Ashland
53 was the addition of Chlorophyl A at Waushakum.

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56 **Articles to the Local Pages – Appointee**

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58 Ms. Sreeraj volunteered to produce an article for the fall. Mr. White hopes to put something
59 together for the August issue.

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61 **Video Discussion**

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63 In order to meet our requirement for public outreach and education, the committee discussed
64 the placement of two available videos (Rob St. Germain on the Stormwater Enterprise Fund;
65 Intro to Town Employee) on WACA and on our website. Mr. White will ask Ashley if we can
66 get these posted.

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68 **Farmer’s Market**

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70 SWAC will have a booth at the Farmer’s Market on July 24. Specific assignments and coverage
71 are as follows:

72 Jeanne – present for entire time

73 Brian – set up

74 Preethi – 8:00 to 10:00

75 Leah and Maggie – 10:00 to 12:00

76 Evan White – will come by some time during the event

77 The Board of Health does not want any displays that might encourage children to congregate.
78 In compliance with this directive, SWAC decided by consensus that we will not use the
79 Enviroscope tool, We will however provide coloring books and educational materials, as well as
80 stickers, booklets and brochures.

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82 **Meeting Format Discussion**

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84 The committee opened a discussion on our meeting medium going forward. Specifically,
85 Governor Baker has approved that town meetings may continue to meet remotely, or at its
86 discretion, the committee may meet in person. SWAC’s impression is that the town leadership
87 would prefer committees continue to meet remotely. This committee also prefers to meet
88 remotely and will revisit this decision when desirable or necessary to meet in person.

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90 **Next Meeting Date**

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92 The next meeting will be held on July 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm and be conducted as an online
93 meeting.

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96 **Adjournment**

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98 Ms. Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Lester seconded the motion. The
99 motion passed on a 4-0-0 vote.

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101 The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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103 **Documents Referenced**

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- June 24, 2021 posted agenda

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- May 20, 2021 draft minutes

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