

**STORMWATER TASK FORCE
MINUTES
March 24, 2016**

The Stormwater Task Force (SWTF) met in the Ritter Building, first floor conference room, as scheduled, with Matt Allison, Jim Auge, Sarah Cammer, Phyllis Luck, and Jack Rodriquenz present, as well as Land Use Director, Adam Burney. The meeting opened at 6:40 pm.

It was announced that there will be an all day workshop “Proposals for Cleaner Water” A Grant Writing Workshop, in Haverhill, on Wednesday, March 30; Phyllis is attending, and others are invited to join her. It was also shared that there are 8 volumes of information on Stormwater work done in Lunenburg during the period March 2003 up through February 2007 available at Town Hall. Members are encouraged to see Elaine Peterson to gain access to these.

The minutes of the March 10, 2016, meeting were approved.

Members shared what they’d learned/ wanted to move forward on, in their areas of focus:

1. Phyllis discussed Public Involvement proposed initiatives:

- Loading information onto the Town website
- Creating an additional website (Dave MacDonald working on this)
- Having a display at Town Meeting with informational materials as well as a Rain Barrel and Compost Bin
 - Sarah will help Phyllis organize this
 - Jack Rodriquenz will put together some informational materials as well
- Organize a Town Clean Up Day
 - a) It was determined this date will be April 30, 2016
 - b) It will be necessary to advise the Town Manager and get her approval; Phyllis will
 - c) Jack Rodriquenz will work with the Ledger to get an article in that paper about illegal dumping and the cost to the Town of disposing of it; he suggested we add a piece about the Town Clean Up Day to that article.
 - d) Two or three specific areas will be targeted; suggestions included Reservoir Rd, Kilburn St. (swamp nearby), and perhaps Hickory Hills
 - e) Will finalize plans at our April 14, 2016 meeting, and get the word out via BOS, local cable channels, etc.

2. Illicit discharge detection & elimination (IDDE): Jim Auge reported that he concluded from reading the stormwater bylaws that they are vague at best (6.7 & 6.8 of Protective Bylaws). It was explained that the Zoning Enforcement Officer would need to take a person suspected of discharging illicit materials to Superior Court. This enforcement action would satisfy our requirement under the MS4 to address IDDE.

A discussion ensued about changing the Bylaws. Adam Burney felt they should be amended and moved from the Protective Bylaws and into the General Bylaws, and that this can be accomplished in time for the Fall Town Meeting. It still needs to be determined who will do that.

3. Sarah Cammer reported on her findings regarding Education and Pollution Control. There is a lot of information available concerning Pollution Prevention. Under the MS4, we will be charged with reducing the pollution that enters our impaired waters by using Best Management Practices. There is an opportunity to apply for a 319 Grant for the waters in Town that are at level 5 (most impaired), such as Mulpus Brook and Lake Shirley. A 40% match, in cash (non-Federal dollars) and/or in-kind is a requirement of the 319 Grant program; the application is due June 1. Lake Shirley has a large watershed and in it there are agricultural uses, which send phosphorous, nitrogen, and other contaminates downhill, eventually into Lake Shirley.

Grant funds can be used for planning and implementation; not for the purchase of equipment.

Adam Burney, who has grant writing as a part of his responsibilities as Land Use Director, will reach out to his contacts at the USDA regarding grants. Sarah Cammer also offered to help with the grant writing effort.

4. Post-construction site stormwater management: Matt Allison reported that he went through Planning Board information and said that there is Pollution control information contained. The Planning Board is anticipating receiving 3 applications for Stormwater permits based on Protective Bylaws 6.7 and 6.8. These are the first applications since the bylaws were adopted in 2006.

It was noted that the Town needs Stormwater standards so that, across all boards, they will be enforced in the same manner. There needs to be an “as built” requirement, so that, upon project completion, a Town agent will survey the property to insure that the developer included in the project all components laid out in the plan.

There was a short discussion about creating the new Stormwater bylaws. It was suggested that we look at the regulations of towns such as Concord and Acton for guidance. It was pointed out that we need to be creating the Master Plan: What is Lunenburg going to do to comply with the new MS4 permit? Who will be responsible for creating bylaws, implementing compliance requirements? What will be the timeline for completion?

It was determined that Jack Rodriquenz, Adam, Jim, and Phyllis could meet with Leominster DPW on Wednesday, March 31, at 10 am. This will be confirmed with Roger Brooks; all other Task Force members are invited to attend, if possible.

There was a discussion of our invitation to join the Central Mass Regional Stormwater Coalition at an annual cost of \$4000. One favorable comment on joining the CMRSC was that, since we are in the initial stages of this work, to join a group that has been working on it for several years, so that we may take advantage of their experience and expertise, is a bargain at \$4000/ per year. There was a question about asking the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to invest in forming a coalition. It was pointed out that the CMRSC was founded by towns joining together to apply for an innovation grant. They received \$310,000, matched by the Towns to some degree. Spencer took the lead, and the coalition has been very successful each year in being awarded the Challenge grants. Jim Auge made a motion to join the CMRSC, it was seconded. After some discussion, it was determined that it would be better to take a vote at our next meeting, when all members will be present. Jim Auge withdrew his motion. If the SWTF votes in favor of joining the CMRSC, the request to join will need to go before the BOS for approval; the BOS must sign the Intermunicipal Agreement to join the CMRSC. Jack Rodriquenz volunteered to speak with the Town Manager to ascertain what exactly the SWTF can spend of the \$40,000 set aside in FY 2015 for Stormwater: what can be spent without BOS approval, and what requires BOS approval.

Information on the Massachusetts Watershed Coalition was disseminated. This organization consults on stormwater issues and remedies and has done extensive work with Leominster. Matt Allison made a motion to join the Massachusetts Stormwater Coalition as River Protector, for \$100 annually. Jack Rodriquenz seconded, all voted in favor.

Sarah Cammer brought up the 319 grant proposal. Adam Burney offered to help her write the grant. The application is due June 1; what does the SWTF feel it should focus on? Sarah commented that she thought watershed work in the Lake Shirley area, specifically addressing the agriculture in the watershed would be applicable; however, she doesn't know the folks involved in agriculture. Matt Allison is the Planning Board liaison to the Agricultural Commission, which meets the third Thursday of the month, downstairs at the Ritter. We have to determine what we want to do, how much we want to ask for in grant funding, and where we'll get the matching funds. The grant application is due June 2016; grants will be awarded in November 2016; contract will be received in February 2017, work will commence in spring 2017, work must be completed in 2020. The previous 319 Grant in 2007 focused on Lake Shirley; there are several small streams that feed into Lake Shirley that could be looked at. Members will come to the next SWTF meeting with ideas on what the 319 grant application should focus on, so that may be determined. Projects in the Lake Shirley watershed and along the Mulpus Brook may be considered. Members are asked to think about where matching funds may be

appropriated, as well as which constituents may want to participate. Ideas may be forwarded to Sarah Cammer, and/or be brought to the next meeting. Adam Burney pointed out that Town employees, including all members of boards and commissions, may not solicit donations of matching funds or materials. The Town may make it known that such is needed, but employees may not ask.

The next meeting of the Stormwater Task Force will be on Thursday, April 14, at 6:30 pm, at the Ritter Building, first floor conference room.

Motion: J Rodriquenz
To adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

2nd: J Auge
Vote: All in Favor