

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
RECORD OF MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
October 3, 2013  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Walter Flynn, Chairman  
Dan Condon, Vice Chairman  
Donald Mathewson  
Ed Harrington  
Steve Reilly  
George Loring  
Pat O'Leary  
Helen Maloney

**NOT PRESENT:**

Christopher Hannan, Clerk

**ALSO PRESENT:**

James Clarke, Director of Planning and Community  
Development  
Kate Marshall, Economic Development Planner  
Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Christine Callbeck

Chairman Flynn called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**WHITMAN'S POND PRESENTATION**

Ms. Schloss discussed the Whitman's Pond Vegetation Action Plan and stated the objective is to move forward with a number of feasible approaches to the issue of invasive weeds in the pond.

The proposed management plan is as follows:

1. Hydro-rake/Harvesting. The ESS Group is not in support of this option.
2. Winter Draw Down. This involves lowering the level of water in the winter. With the right level and right weather conditions it could kill most of the invasive weeds. This option costs some money up front for permitting but, once in place, can be done with manipulation of the dams.
3. Dredging. This is the only permanent way to get rid of the weeds. Ms. Schloss explained the process could start in the South Cove if the Town can obtain funding; this is a source of the Town's drinking water. A possible source of funding could be the Water Enterprise Fund. Mr. Mathews stated that to dredge the South Cove of Whitman's Pond would cost approximately \$6 million dollars; there are 25 acres in the South Cove.

Additionally, the West Cove would cost \$4.5 million dollars; to do the entire pond would cost in the area of \$40-50 million dollars.

4. Management and Monitoring. Ms. Schloss stated she wants to make it clear to all involved agencies and citizens, the pond needs to be continuously managed. This is not a onetime fix.
5. The working group feels that it should continue working and meeting on this topic.
6. Trial. The Town may want to try different things and needs to research different products.
7. Storm Water Management. This is an issue with the larger water shed outfalls.

Mr. Mathews stated the working group has been meeting as a group for well over a year now. The working group wants to present this proposal to the Community Preservation Committee because the CPC funded prior work on the pond. The working group discussed purchase of a weed harvester and a hydro-rake but the weeds will still grow back. The draw down would only be effective once out of every two years and it will not work on water lilies. It also will not work in the West Cove unless the Town fixes the culvert on Middle Street. Herbicide Treatment was stopped because it would have harmed alewife herring during the spawning period.

Ms. Schloss stated the Town would need to get permits in place so that the draw down can be done at any time. Typically, it is done in the fall, possibly fall of 2014. The permitting should cost less than \$20,000.

Mr. Clarke stated here is a list of things to start working on:

- Working group still meeting
- Permitting takes time
- Need to study how to do dredging
- How to refill and when
- Fix the culvert on Middle Street
- Look at dams

Ms. Schloss stated she would like to see the Whitman's Pond Association try some different approaches and see how they work.

Mr. Mathews stated the working group has looked into finding monies to purchase the equipment mentioned.

Mr. Clarke suggested going to the State for clarification on the change in the CPC law regarding capital purchases and working with the Town Council and the Mayor.

It is anticipated that the project's final design would be completed between winter and spring 2014. Construction would likely begin in summer 2014 and would be completed by fall of the same year.

Cost breakdown:

<u>Project element</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Designer Fees	\$30,000
<b>Design Subtotal</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
General Conditions	\$9,000
Site Demolition/Preparation	\$21,000
Excavation, Filing & Grading	\$80,000
Drainage Improvements	\$18,000
Paving	\$95,000
Planting	\$46,000
Intersection Improvements	\$1,800
Interpretative Signage	\$9,000
Site Furnishing	\$8,200
10% Contingency	\$32,000
<b>Construction Subtotal</b>	<b>\$320,000</b>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>
<b>FY 14 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>FY 15 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$320,000</b>

Chairman Flynn stated that the CPC needs to fund the full project and will get reimbursed after it is paid for.

Mr. Clarke stated yes, that is correct.

Mr. Condon made a MOTION to APPROVE the request for funding for the BACK RIVER TRAIL PROPOSAL in the amount of \$350,000.; \$300,000 from General Reserve Fund and \$50,000 from Unrestricted Fund. Mr. Harrington SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Ms. O'Leary asked if the Back River Trail could be considered a working title for the project. Mr. Clarke stated yes.

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

### **Pond Plain**

Mr. Harrington NOMINATED Mr. Hannan as Clerk of the CPC. Mr. Condon SECONDED the NOMINATION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **WOODBINE ROAD**

Mr. Harrington asked Mr. Clarke if he ever got comments back from the State regarding issues on Woodbine Road. Mr. Clarke stated he needs to speak with Ms. Preis in order to get the results of this question. Mr. Harrington stated he then would be reluctant to vote on the Whitman's Pond project until the Woodbine Road issue is resolved.

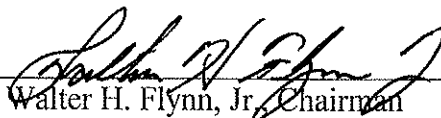
### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be November 7, 2013.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:30P.M., there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Mr. Condon to ADJOURN and SECONDED by Ms. O'Leary. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Walter H. Flynn, Jr., Chairman

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

12/9/13