


MA JA SC PL DM JRabbitt JRodriguez

**STORMWATER TASK FORCE
MINUTES
March 10, 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, Dave MacDonald, and Jack Rabbitt present, as well as Land Use Director, Adam Burney. The meeting opened at 6:35 pm. Jack Rodriguez entered the meeting at 6:50.

To "begin with the end in mind", the Stormwater Task Force mission statement was read. It was announced that there will be a 319 Grant meeting at the DEP office in Worcester on March 15, Phyllis will attend and would love to have other members join her. Several members brought up issues with their ability to use the Town of Lunenburg email service; they were encouraged to contact Steve Malandrinos, the Town's Tech expert. Phyllis offered to follow up with Steve as well. Minutes of the January 13 and February 10 meeting were approved. Adam Burney declined to serve as an Alternate Member. It was explained that an Alternate serves as voting member when there are quorum issues; it was decided we'll recruit someone if having a quorum becomes an issue.

As assigned at the January 13 meeting, Jack Rabbitt reported on how the Conservation Commission (LCC) has been approaching stormwater issues. There are 2 layers: Town bylaws and regulations. The way the bylaws are written, the LCC can create regulations; they have not spent much time on stormwater to date. The only regulation specific items Conservation has are in the stormwater management piece. The LCC works with the Planning Board to implement this. They also rely on Bylaws 6.7 and 6.8, which put the Planning Board in charge of stormwater. The Planning Board is the Stormwater Permit granting authority. In many towns, this authority lies with the Conservation Commission. The LCC is very invested in the successful treatment of stormwater and have begun drafting a series of bylaws and regulations pertaining to this issue, using the regulations of other communities, such as Tyngsboro, as a guide. When the Stormwater Task Force was initiated, they put a hold on these efforts and are waiting to see what their role should be. The LCC has an Agent who can assist with these matters, and want to be involved with helping the Town move forward quickly to regulate stormwater.

Adam Burney added that the bylaws that exist were created after the MS 4 Permit was released in 2003 to deal with illicit discharge and stormwater, and were misplaced in Zoning; they make more sense as General Bylaws. They more or less mirror what the Town needs to be doing to comply with requirements of the MS4. It is important that the LCC refer to the Massachusetts Stormwater Standards when dealing with these issues; which standards the Planning Board also uses. The job of the SWTF is to regulate land disturbance, pre and post construction, and to determine what size disturbance qualifies for regulation. We need a definitive set of measures by which we judge every application, so that the permit process is objective, not subjective.

The Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook is an important reference for all to use.

Matt Allison reached out to Brad Harris of the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission to discuss Stormwater coalitions. Brad informed Matt that there is no stormwater coalition in our region to date, and that the Central Mass Regional Stormwater Coalition and the North Middlesex Stormwater Coalition are two we could enter into discussions with. Matt also suggested reaching out to Leominster and Fitchburg. Matt also asked about the DOT's involvement with stormwater; it is unclear.

The SWTF voted to purchase 15 55 gallon rain barrels with grant funding obtained by the Town Manager. The DPW will handle the ordering and sale of these barrels, which will be part of our Public Outreach and Involvement effort. The barrels will be available at the DPW; we will begin advertising their availability as soon as they arrive.

A discussion ensued as to "next steps". Adam Burney pointed out that when the new permit is issued, cities and towns will have 6 months to submit the Notice of Intent (NOI), then one year after that to begin compliance, so we will need to be "ready" in the second year after the new permit is issued, which issuance is predicted to be soon. There was a suggestion that the SWTF look at the "Six Minimum Measures" and determine which areas each of us wants to have as areas of focus. The focus will be to look at the MS4 Permit and determine what the Permit is alluding to concerning that area; essentially, what are permit holders requirements in each of the 6 areas. Also, what are other permit holders currently accomplishing? Fred Civian may be a good resource to put us in touch with information & contacts. Also, for information on what the Town is currently doing, Lunenburg's protective bylaws are online.

Members should be prepared to choose area(s) at our next meeting:

1. Public Education
2. Public Involvement
3. Illicit discharge detection & elimination (IDDE)
4. Construction site Runoff
5. Post-construction site stormwater management
6. Pollution Prevention & good housekeeping

Members volunteered for the following areas on the spot:

1. Public Education: Jack Rodriquenz, Sarah
2. Public Involvement: Phyllis
3. IDDE (covered within the text of protective bylaw 6.8): Jim Auge
4. Construction Runoff: Dave
5. Post-construction stormwater management: Matt
6. Pollution Prevention: Sarah

Once we've dissected each of these parts, the SWTF will develop a Stormwater Master Plan. Essentially, how do we achieve compliance, what work needs to be done, who'll be charged with overseeing/doing the work, how will we pay for it? Coming up with the plan is first, deciding how best to implement follows. A question was asked as to how we will know how/if we're progressing. The MS 4 Permit has a requirement for an annual report on progress, which we can use to measure the results of our efforts on a yearly basis.

The SWTF has a website on the Town website, how will we manage that? Dave MacDonald volunteered to reach out to Jo McLaughlin to see if she can set up a separate website for the SWTF that can be linked to from our Town website. Sarah suggested that the Town SWTF website have links to basic information on stormwater. Matt volunteered to talk to Steve Malandrinos to facilitate easier ways to get to our website(s).

Remote participation will be allowed at SWTF meetings; physical quorum must be achieved for this to occur.

The next meeting of the Stormwater Task Force will be on Thursday, March 24, at 6:30 pm, at the Ritter Building, first floor conference room.

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

2nd: D. MacDonald
Vote: All in Favor