

Sasco Brook Pollution Abatement Committee Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2012
10:00 AM – Noon

Attendees: Alicia Mozian, Conservation Director
Carla Nelson, Fairfield County Hunt Club
Pete Fraboni, Earthplace Harbor Watch
Dick Harris, Earthplace Harbor Watch
Mark Cooper, Westport/Weston Health District
Carol Donzella, NRCS
Chris Malik, DEEP
Geoff Steadman, Consultant

1. Review of July 26, 2012 meeting minutes

Three items were noted: Item 4b, first paragraph: the Norwalk River Watershed should be changed to read the *Norwalk Harbor Management Commission*, and 4B, second paragraph should be changed to read the *NRW Initiative*, and “incentive to participate a free septic pump-out” should be changed to read *incentive to better improve water quality*. The minutes were approved as corrected

2. Water Quality Testing Results Taken by Earthplace Harbor Watch

Dick reported that six teams of students are performing the water quality tests: one team at Sasco Brook (estuary), one at Muddy Brook, one at New Creek, one at Lamplight, and two at Dead Man’s Brook. He also reported that Tim Bridges from EPA completed his report on the testing for pharmaceuticals in the Sasco Brook Watershed. The report will be sent out to the Committee for review. Aside from high counts of caffeine noted at site 7D – all other test results were low.

3. Watershed Management Plan: proper display and distribution of Memorandum of Agreement

Geoff reported that he is moving forward with the design of the panels and should have them ready in 1-2 weeks. The panels will include the signature page, aerial photo, a drawing of the watershed, and the vision statement. The panels will be approximately 12” x 18” and will be mounted on foam board.

4. NFWF Grant Update

Mark reported that the NFWF grant was denied. A list of reasons for denial is forthcoming and will be forwarded to the committee. Other grant opportunities will be pursued.

5. Next Steps in Furthering the Goals of the Plan

The committee reviewed the 5 year implementation schedule for 2011 and 2012 to see what has been accomplished and what needs to be done to keep on track. Geoff offered to contact

Tom Steinke in Fairfield to see if there is a school that may be interested in conducting a house to house watershed survey. He also offered to contact the Southport Conservancy to see about the available funds for signage at Southport beach. An estimated \$3,500.00 is needed for design, fabrication, and installation. Alicia mentioned CL&P has a grant program that we might pursue for funding for the signage.

6. Other Business

The newly released *State of Connecticut Integrated Water Quality Report* was discussed. It was noted that Sasco Brook continues to be listed. Chris noted that all the efforts are making progress and Sasco Brook is almost off the list. He is working with Steve Winnett at EPA and requested success stories to help promote the progress being made to help continue funding.

Dick announced that they are holding a *Stream Exploration and Monitoring Workshop* on Saturday, October 13, 20, 27 and November 3 at 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. All are invited to participate.

Dick suggested that testing sub-watersheds A, B and C need to be revisited as they haven't been done in a long time.

The next meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, November 29, 2012**, at 10:00 AM, at Earthplace.