

**SASCO BROOK POLLUTION ABATEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2024**

Members Present: Colin Kelly, Westport Conservation Director
Mark Cooper, Aspetuck Health District Director
Nikki Spiller, HarborWatch Director,
Jason Canepari, Fairfield Count Hunt Club
Geoff Steadman
Ed & Roseann Martinez, 3 Palmieri Road

The agenda is as follows:

1. Approval of January 25, 2024 meeting minutes

The January 25, 2024 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Motion:	Canepari	Second:	Cooper
Ayes:	Canepari, Cooper, Kelly, Spiller		
Nayes:	None	Abstentions:	None
			Vote: 4:0:0

2. Fairfield County Hunt Club – Jason Canepari
 - a. 2024 Horse Show Schedule

Mr. Canepari reported there will be two major shows this year occurring on June 18 to 22 and August 15 to 18. There will also be outdoor shows on May 4 and June 1 as small events with no tents. He noted that normal routine maintenance of the biofiltration swale will occur next spring or winter. The manure management volume is down due to less horses onsite from the membership. It is still being taken offsite.

Mr. Canepari noted the pool house at the Horse Farm has been connected to sewer and the septic has been abandoned. There are 5 more projects to connect to sewer as they transition forward.

3. Water Quality Monitoring – Nikki Spiller
 - a. 2024 sampling season

Ms. Spiller stated the sampling season begins in May and runs through September. There will be two samples taken each month. She has received funding source for a Pilot EPA study through Jeniam Foundation for sampling. She is still formulating the plan but noted the sampling is expanding the pathogen sampling methods they currently use.

Mr. Cooper asked who will be doing the analysis.

Ms. Spiller stated she's still working on it but possibly Save the Sound.

Mr. Martinez asked if sampling will include Sasco Pond.

Ms. Spiller stated the sampling will occur at Post Road East and Old Road.

4. Fairfield report

Mr. Kelly read letter from Tim Bishop outlining updates, including:

1. Last month, I developed and launched an Adopt-A-Street program here in Fairfield, in an effort to have volunteers remove roadside litter and keep it from entering wetlands & watercourses (and the LIS). More info here:
<https://fairfieldct.org/service/conservation/adopt-a-street.php>
2. I received notice yesterday that our Town Attorney has filed a Motion for Foreclosure Notice in Superior Court on the 3726 Post Road property. Finally, some positive action on this parcel.

Mr. Steadman arrived at 10:25 a.m.

5. Westport report

- a. Greens Farms Academy – Student project – Restoration of mosquito ditch
- b. Greens Farms Academy – Athletic building and updated septic system

Mr. Kelly updated the Committee on permits issued at Greens Farms. He reviewed a project by the Science Department and Molly Keaveney, a student within the department.

6. Other Business

- a. Update on Bridge Permits on Old Road/Wakeman Lane

Mr. Kelly gave an update on the progress of the bridge permitting process at Old Road and Wakeman Lane. The bridge has been approved through Conservation Department and is now waiting on State approval and the bidding process.

- b. Update on Bridge Permits on Greens Farms Road/Kings Highway West

Mr. Kelly gave an update on the progress of the bridge permitting process at Greens Farms Road and Kings Highway West. They are 2 to 3 months away from design plans. More than likely, they are looking at final permits next year.

- c. Update of the UI plan to relocate the electric transmission line monopoles from Sasco Brook to the east through Fairfield.

Fairfield intervened with the State. United Illuminating withdrew the plans. There is now a new proposal for poles on the northside of the tracks without plans. The Siting Council approved and now are being challenged. The Siting Council may have future challenges with proposed legislation for new proposed laws.

- d. Aquarion Water Company – Nomination for CT Environmental Champions

Suggestion that the Committee itself be the nominee.

Mr. Steadman displayed watershed for Earth Day in Fairfield and focused on Sasco Brook. He was at the YMCA in Fairfield. The Harbor Management Commission along with Tim Bishop had exhibits for the public. He presented charts and posters from the presentation.

e. Other Business

Mr. Steadman – USGS work – Brittney Izbicki sent email to thank Yacht Club and Sasco. He will follow through requesting an embayment summary report.

Rosanne Martinez asked about the restoration of the Pin Shop dam.

Mr. Kelly had a discussion about previous work to open the dam and the Fairfield collection of property access.

Mr. Steadman mentioned the State and their work with utilizing funding from the State Pier project to offset it's construction.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.