

## Mill Brook Watershed Management Planning Committee

### Minutes of 5/8/17 meeting

Present: Cindy Mitchell, Selena Roman, Tim Boland, Rez Williams, Kristen Fauteux and Prudy Burt

Absent: Nancy Huntington, Chuck Hodgkinson

Also Present: Kent Healy and Bill Wilcox

Kent shared with committee members a written draft of his thoughts regarding measurement of stream flow and precipitation in order to calculate the annual amount of specific materials or to calculate the amount of water lost from the brook by diversion, ground water recharge or evapotranspiration.

Prudy reiterated her request from past meetings- that Kent compare his data with like sites of ESS Group. To the extent possible, Kent has done this in this written draft. ESS Group water flow data for the site at Scotchman's Bridge Lane, for example, shows very similar results to those of Kent's for the same period of time, likewise for the site below Priester Pond at the State Road bridge crossing to Kent's data from a site just upstream. Prudy asked that Carl Nielsen, ESS Group, be given a chance to review Kent's assessment before the committee decides to include any of this in our final report. Cindy asked that members read Kent's assessment and get familiar with it before our meeting on May 22 so we can send to Carl for comments and response.

Committee members then discussed Greg Whitmore's report on the Mill Brook invertebrate collection and his spreadsheet analysis of species. Since our meeting on 4/24/17, Prudy and Kristen were able to confirm that Greg had identified species found by location in the stream. Kristen will do some further analysis, sorting out the zero pollution tolerance ('high quality') species from the spreadsheet data and identify where they were found in the stream.

Selena suggested using Greg's report as is, as far as Page 4, rather than try to paraphrase or rewrite it. Prudy concurred, adding that given that Greg was able to identify specimens down to species, she feels that his assessment of what this means for Mill Brook carries a good deal of

weight. Members agreed that Prudy and Selena will lightly edit Greg's report for inclusion in Draft #7 and circulate among committee members before May 22.

Minutes of the 5/8/17 meeting were approved.

Members discussed the size of the committee and the difficulty in recent months getting a quorum (5 members for a committee of 9) for meetings. We will ask the selectmen to take this under advisement and to consider reducing the membership to 8, lowering the quorum needed to 4 members.

Submitted by Prudy Burt