

2/3/20 Minutes

Mill Brook Watershed Management Committee

Present: Cindy Mitchell, David Bouck, Angela Luckey, Bill Wilcox, Brian Beal, Prudy Burt, Selena Roman, Tim Boland

1/21/20 minutes approved, all in favor.

Brian asked that this committee think about how we might help the conservation commission to draft regulations for permit applications under the water withdrawal bylaw passed at 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Re next steps, Cindy suggested that we structure future requests for proposals to ensure that we get the kind of watershed expertise that we need. Prudy indicated that Nick Wildman of MA Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) could help us to direct our available funds to the relevant talent. Tim suggested that we could schedule a conference/Skype call with Nick at Polly Hill Arboretum. Prudy will circulate an email sent by Michelle Craddock (watershed ecologist at MA DER) after the 2018 Mill Brook report came out. In this email, Michelle reviewed the data gathered by ESS Group and made suggestions about future water flow sampling that would fill in some of the known data gaps.

Bill Wilcox suggested that future water flow sampling should result in better data at fewer locations. He will also ask Kent to share his Mill Brook water flow data.

David shared that the Great Ponds Foundation (GPF) now owns the YSI multimeter that BiodiversityWorks bought when they did some of the water quality work in 2015. Emily Reddington of the GPF said that we could borrow this device to continue with Mill Brook work. David has experience with these devices, and both he and Angela have done field work in the course of their studies.

Dave Swotch, a well driller at Island Water Systems, was suggested as a resource for expertise re green sand deposits in the Mill Brook watershed and how these might impact the water chemistry. Bill will make an effort to get in touch with Dave about this.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 2/24/20 at 5 p.m.

Submitted by Prudy Burt