



Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Posting

Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by M.G.L.Ch.30A §18-28)

Board/Committee: Water Resources Protection Task Force – Contaminants Working Group
Day & Date: Tuesday, January 3, 2023
Time: 7:15pm
Location: VIRTUAL
Signature: Jessica Lamothe

MINUTES

Members present – Gordon Turner, Randi Augustine, Francie Caudill, Jessica Lamothe, Lynn Atkinson
Non-member present – Chuck Dam, DPW director

Gravelly Pond discussion with Chuck Dam

- One of the biggest challenges is how to quantify contaminants. Chuck still has lot of data that needs to be sifted through. Dana Truslow and Scott Horsley are going to do some of it.
- Chuck feels there is a lot of data on our landfill and Hamilton's in existing monitoring wells.
 - We know that groundwater is moving toward Gravelly Pond (GP)
 - We should be able to calculate the speed that contaminants are traveling
 - We know what we have pumped out of GP, what we have pumped into GP from Round Pond, average rainfall etc. We should be able to do some calculations and get a general idea of how much of the contaminants are in the groundwater.
 - We need to figure out what the next steps and specific questions are.
- Randi stated that different contaminants move at different rates and wondered what Chuck's main objective would be. See if the contaminants are moving to prepare to remediate?
- Chuck stated that some contaminants are swimmers, some are sinkers, and some are moving in the groundwater.
 - We know that there are PFAS in the monitoring wells in our landfill.
 - The PFAS levels in both ponds have been measured and are ok for now.
 - The question is how fast we expect the PFAS to show up in GP. If we know that then we can prepare for treatment/remediation.
- Randi stated that many environmental studies are finding PFAS in groundwater associated with leaching from municipal landfills.
- Gordon stressed that Chuck is not advocating for more monitoring wells. The question is how much water is coming from the landfills vs. other sources and, thus, how big is the concern?
- Lynn stated that it doesn't seem to matter the amount of PFAS coming – the issue is that we know they are coming.
- Chuck stated that what Scott Horsley is trying to do is come up with a better defined water protection area.
 - How much have things changed since the 1990 report and do we need to redraw the maps?

- Why do we care? We know the numbers at the Manchester landfill are well above the MCL. If groundwater is moving at a certain rate/steady state it could give us a sense of when treatment will be necessary. And this applies to other contaminants as well, not just PFAS.
- Chuck stressed that it is likely we will be treating the Lincoln Street Well before GP.
- Gordon stressed that knowing if contaminants are moving at a steady state versus a plume coming that we could slow down, potentially, would be helpful. And, obviously, different contaminants would need different treatments.
- Randi said that the boundaries of Zone A and Zone B are defined by DEP and if we want them changed or expanded, we would have to apply. Getting an expanded Zone B would be good.
- Gordon wondered whether if we want to pressure for further studies if it should come from our working group or the larger Task Force.
- Chuck said we would be discussing this topic at the Task Force meeting tomorrow night.
- Randi felt this was beyond the Task Force's expertise or technical knowledge.
- Francie felt that we should encourage for Scott Horsley/the Town to study this further.
- Chuck said that no one has done a full desk top level analysis of all the data that we do have already.
- Randi thought the information could be used to build a groundwater model.
- Gordon asked if we have enough data to produce such a model?
- Lynn asked what the data looks like for the wells in the landfill vs. the pond. Chuck replied that there are definite hot spots.
- Randi felt we should have someone look at the current data and see where the holes are that need further study. There is closure documentation from the 90s that needs to be reviewed.
- Jessica wondered what the cost might be to study this. Chuck said that \$10k should be enough to do the desktop analysis, put the data in order and see where the holes are.
- Lynn wondered if the data is publicly available. Chuck said it is not online, but can be requested from DEP
- Gordon suggested one thing is to ask Hamilton for any new data, but that we could certainly get started with current data from Hamilton or DEP.
- Gordon then asked if the new PFAS regs are out yet. Chuck said they are not, but they are expected soon.
- Chuck offered to send us the data he has, and the group agreed we should look at it. Gordon said he found a program that would allow us to take the data, plug it in and then see trends. Chuck left the meeting at this point.

Draft Document for the Quality and Contaminants Report

- Gordon had re-formatted the document and we all agreed we need to prioritize getting this done.
- We went through and claimed sections for everyone to work on. The goal would be for people to get their drafts done and into the document by January 9th so that we can then review and make edits of one another's sections.
- We agreed we wanted to add in Helen's summary from 12/9.
- Randi told us about The Environmental Monitor. Randi will write a description for the document, but it is something people can sign up for and it lets you know about various development projects happening in surrounding towns that could have an impact on our water quality.

Minutes

Gordon moved and Randi seconded to approve the minutes of November 21, 2022. The minutes were approved. Lynn abstained as she was not present for the 11/21 meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17th at 7:15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessica Lamothe. Minutes approved on March 22, 2023.