

MINUTES
Henniker Conservation Commission
Water Resources Subcommittee Meeting
October 27, 2008
7:00 PM Henniker Grange Hall
Adopted Minutes

PRESENT: Holly Green, Mark Mitch, Chris Fox, Ron Taylor, Rick Patenaude, and Dana Myskowski

1) Review and approve minutes for the 8/18 & 9/15 meetings:

Holly Green moved to accept. Chris Fox seconded. Passed unanimously with two abstentions (Rick & Ron, who were absent from September's meeting).

2) NH Department of Environmental Services Source Water Protection Grant Application

Holly suggested that we NOT apply since there doesn't appear that we need anything that the grant could give us at this point; however, since it is a grant that is offered annually, we can apply in the future. This was agreed upon by the committee members.

3) Updates to Water Resources Management Plan:

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE TASKS LIST

Confirm accuracy of the following:

- Watershed info on pages 3 - 8 & 18. (Mark) – Mark is currently trying to delineate all the no-name brooks, working to identify each of the waterways and their flow directions.
- Surface water quality classification, pgs 8 & 10. (Mark) – More next meeting.
- Flood plain info on page 9. (Chris) Chris has so far found 100-year and 500-year flood plain maps. He also brought a map that illustrates the 75-gallons per minute water areas. Rick and Ron examined the Water Hazards map. Town wells appear to be gravel. Ron questioned a couple hazardous sites; Chris will bring the labels to the next meeting. Another question was: What is a no-point source? Again, Chris will define that for next month's meeting and Holly will bring the list of hazardous sites. We looked at the flow of water in town as it relates to the town wells. For the town aquifer that is currently in use, the well-protection area is clearly delineated; for the one that is not in current use, the well-protection delineation is simply a circle around the well that extends in approximately a 4000 foot radius.
- Wetlands and soils info on pages 8 - 9 & 21 - 22. (Mark & Chris) Mark and Chris discussed poorly drained soils vs. wetlands. Mark believes there is more detail available via another map—they are both looking to identify poorly drained soils and wetlands areas. Mark will bring more maps and data to next month's meeting. Descriptors – on the maps: Mark can pull up the information for next month and Chris can bring more descriptors to next meeting. They found that one map is missing some town ponds.
- Aquifer and Bedrock info on pages 10 - 14. (Chris & Rick.) Chris has pulled some of this bedrock info off of one stop; Rick will interpret it once he has the print outs from Chris. Rick will look into naturally occurring risks of arsenic and other possible contaminants in town wells and report his findings to the subcommittee.

Update the following:

- Surface water discharge, use, and withdrawal on pages 8 - 11 and 13. (Holly) Holly completed much of this last month and will bring further information next month.
- Groundwater discharge, use, and withdrawal on pages 11 and 13. (Holly) (See previous bullet.)

- Well data on pages 10 - 11. (Holly, Rick & Chris.) As a committee we decided that we won't try to identify every private well in town. However, as noted above, Chris and Rick will work to provide bedrock, contamination, and also water flow information based on current maps and data.
- Potential contamination sources on pages 14 - 16. (Holly) Holly will bring the print outs to next month's meeting.
- Land Use and Zoning info on pages 17 - 18. (Dana, with help from Holly & Chris.) Chris brought the maps provided by DES. Dana brought her notes from Laura Scott and received help from the committee on some of the questions still outstanding. More to come next month.
- Water use info on pages 12 - 13 and 18 - 20. (Holly)
- Septic systems on pages 21 - 22. (Soil - Chris; Septic - Dana) Soil maps brought by Chris this month; more next month. Dana brought more info than necessary & still has some outstanding e-mail questions, but the committee distilled the info to be included in the report to:

SUBSURFACE SYSTEMS BUREAU - To prevent pollution of all public or private water supplies, whether underground or surface sources.

The Subsurface Systems Bureau is responsible for the review and issuance or denial of permits that govern approximately 80-85% of all development that occurs within the state of New Hampshire. In particular, the bureau is responsible for the following activities:

- Reviews applications for the subdivision of land and the design of individual septic systems.
- Performs on-site inspections of all septic systems installed in order to ensure strict compliance with the approved plans.
- Implements and administers the program for licensing both designers and installers of septic systems. No individual may submit an application nor install a septic system without first obtaining a license from this bureau.
- Investigates written complaints received by the Department of Environmental Services relative to situations which are or may be causing degradation of the state's waters.
- Coordinates other necessary permits involved in a particular project or development.

SOURCE: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rules/documents/env-wq1000.pdf>

- Waste disposal on page 22. (Ron) Ron placed some information in Holly's box; she will bring that to next month's meeting.
- Public Water Systems on pages 23 - 24. (Ron - COMPLETED)
- Wastewater Treatment on page 24. (Ron - COMPLETED)
- Existing regulations and policies on pages 24 - 26 (Ron; also: subdivision regulation)
- Storage Tanks Appendix II (Ron - COMPLETED)

Possible Maps to Add:

Chris brought printed maps of the list below, and will bring more descriptors and labels for some of the maps to next month's meeting.

- Aquifers
- Watersheds
- Soils -Wetlands
- Potential Contamination Sources
- Floodplains
- Well locations
- Land Use

Other:

- Contact Fire Department to obtain the Emergency Planning Community Right to Know information (Spencer).

4) November 13 Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act Workshop

Denise is working on mailing labels and Holly will see if DES can provide copies of the Shoreland Protection Act brochure. Henniker Community Center is reserved for the meeting. Arlene Allen will speak. Mark will bring his projection screen. Refreshments will be provided by the committee, via Holly.

5) Regional Environmental Planning Program Grant

Holly will be meeting with regional planning commission staff.

6) Other Business:

- BLOG: (Dana) Dana e-mailed Denise to suggest they meet once her business has slowed for the winter season.
- NH Association of Natural Resource Scientists—Chris will inquire with them to see if they are doing any outreach, workshops, etc.
- Rain Barrels – (Dana) Waiting to receive municipal rate quote.
- Rain Scaping – (Dana) Dana hopes to meet with Denise once the weather turns and her fall business slows so the two of them can brainstorm a list of suggested native plants for this purpose.

The subcommittee will meet again November 17 at 7 pm. It was unanimously decided to adjourn at 8:47.

Respectfully submitted,
Dana Myskowski
October 28, 2008