

CITY OF DOVER

AD-HOC WILLAND POND COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **Cafeteria, McConnell Center**
Meeting Date: **August 23, 2011**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER 5:37 PM

Members Present: Rick Callaghan, Bob Therrian, Suzanne Ellis, Marty Wilson
Guests Present: Dean Peschel, Sally Soule

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Motion to approve by Marty, Bob 2nd, all in favor

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 26, 2011 MEETING MINUTES No minutes available at this time.

4. WATER LEVEL:

a.) Willand Pond: Rick asked Sally if there were recent measurements taken as he had not gotten news of any. Sally said Dave Sharples may not be able to do this regularly anymore because she is aware of staffing constraints on his end and has had no updates. She will email him to request a few measurements before the winter season.

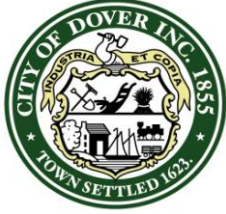
Rick suggested we request certain intervals for reporting of the level. Dean recommends monthly. Sally will inquire. She may ask Dave if he'd like to train a volunteer to do this.

Dean – From the Emery & Garret reports, there is a range of acceptable water levels. This report will go to DES. Emery and Garrett believes the 12 inch well will be approved by the end of this year. The second well will probably be approved in the latter part of next year. Once reinstated for water supply, the city has 5 years to activate the well or the approval goes away. The CIP includes money for pumps and pump houses with construction to follow years down the road. The Planning Board has this in mind.

An **acceptable** range of water level needs to be established. Natural leveling off must be factored in to what we'll induce with active pumping. Current level is believed to be at maximum (190 feet, measured at the half-way point on a certain culvert). Dean indicated that Emery and Garrett want a 5 foot normal fluctuation to make the well pumping worthwhile and it should be factored in for a target range; they asked for 187 to 192.

Discussion ensued. Dean felt the 2 foot fluctuation range suggested by Amy (DES) was only for the Milfoil water treatment period. Bob says maximum high of 186-187 should be established. Different water levels were discussed and how the water level will be maintained.

It was agreed to establish a range that could be used to stimulate further discussions with all stakeholders at the next two meetings. Stakeholders include: Somersworth City Staff, Dover City Staff, Strafford County Commissioners, NH Fish and Game, NH Marine Patrol, NH DES (various subdivisions), and Emery and Garrett. Input is needed to preserve wanted plant life, abate undesired plant life, maintain the boat dock, control cyanobacteria, reduce/eliminate basement flooding, maintain the trail bridge/boardwalk, and encourage recreational use of the pond and trail.



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It was agreed to use 182-187 as a discussion base with all stakeholders and try to keep it midway. Bob, Suzanne, Marty, Dean, Sally, and Rick concur. Dean will furnish details to Rick to clarify how the range will be used. Stakeholders will be invited over the next two meetings to give input to the Ad-Hoc before they make a final recommendation to the Dover City Council.

Dean: We have permission to pump for another 90 days which may give us an idea of what this will look like.

b.) Wellington Well: Dean reported that the well is not affected by the level of the pond. A correlation [of ground water level] can be made by observation of the two but there is not cause/effect relationship. Natural ground barriers and a clay layer prevent water from escaping from these residential properties.

Conclusion:

- 1.) One well will not be sufficient in having a wide effect in this neighborhood. A series of wells might lower the water level sufficiently. The water level might need to be dropped 14 feet to maintain a level 6 feet below home foundations.
- 2.) Another recommendation was to create drainage for water that is currently sump-pumped so it would not have to be discharged onto residential lawns.

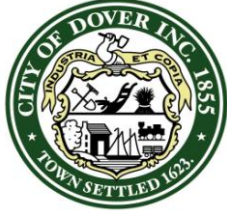
c.) Hockey Tournament: is proposed to Friends of Willand Pond for 2 weeks in January, 2012. This is a commercial venture put on by Stimilon who plan to snow-blow several (7) rinks out on the ice, will use water from under the ice to flood the rinks, and will not allow any autos on the pond. They are asking for assurance that pumping will not affect the ice from a safety standpoint. For this winter there is no danger because there will be no pumping over the winter because the current system is above ground; any problems with ice quality will be the result of Mother Nature. We are reminded that Fish and Game and Marine Patrol are authorities as to what's on the water.

There was discussion about the impact of trash, bathrooms, and cigarette butts (for examples) as a result of such an event. Dean and Sally asked that the Friends Group get assurance from the hockey group (even in the form of a bond) that will protect the sensitive pond environment from human impact of this size.

5. WATER QUALITY:

a.) Preservation of Desired Plant life

b.) Milfoil: The committee is awaiting a report from Amy Smagula. Dean knows that sampling has occurred post treatment (for Milfoil). He believes there are no remnants of



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herbicides since treatment. Posted signs will be left in place until we receive communication from Amy.

Weed watcher Activity - Rick has attempted to reach Amy for structuring this activity without luck so far. There has been no report of how this is going.

c.)Cyanobacteria: Sally has no reports but she believes that Doug Knight has been sampling for Cyano and other factors affecting water quality. Sally stated that Total Phosphorus levels are elevated (over the normal level). We only have 2 years worth of sampling – no long term trends available. The pond appears to look healthy and there are no reports of Cyanobacteria being present.

There was discussion about Friends doing an outreach to residents concerning use of phosphorus-containing fertilizer in proximity to the water. Dean commented that even non-waterfront properties might contribute to the phosphorus levels via leaching-effect.

Biofiltration is not in operation at the discharge points into the pond (e.g. culverts).

6. OTHER BUSINESS (New or Old) -

Meetings will still be: monthly

Meeting time will be: 5:30pm

Fourth Tuesday of the month is good for everyone

We will meet for the next two months and schedule the winter as deemed necessary.

AdHoc will exist until water quality and water level is resolved (per City Government's eyes).

7. **ADJOURNMENT:** Bob motioned to adjourn, Suzanne seconded. All in favor. 6:57 pm.

NOTE: An audio recording of this meeting can be found going to:

<https://online.ci.dover.nh.us/energie/doverSearch.php>