

15 May 2019

AHWC meeting, 5:15 Police station

Present: Diane, Laura, Tom

Absent: Eric, Janet

Visitor: Fran Auciello

Cc: Jim, Bruce

RE: Notes

Old Business

Earth Day (Laura)

LE to follow up and ask Gerry Falco about her take on success

Janet and Laura at our table, maybe 10 people came by in 3 hrs. Lots of activity in the clean-up dept. Green people had good # of visitors and one sign up.

Tom suggests that if you want attention, do a presentation, not just hand out paper. Presentations were strong

Tom reports Town meeting display easy enough to do but in this case was not worth the effort – 1 possible sign up

LE emailed Chris M. thanking him for water plant tour. Everyone impressed with turnout. Asked him what AHWC can do to assist w/water ban, messaging for same. Upcoming. People don't know about it. Flyers at the dump? Other? Will report back

Watershed Protection progress. (Diane and Tom) More info from Essex Greenbelt re what letters went to whom 10-15 yrs ago? Plan for sharing info with Commissioners and Selectmen

Contacted Chris LaPointe at Essex Greenbelt, who requested list of parcels of interest. Looked at it in context of Open Space plan, to prioritize. DW and TM selected 9-10 parcels near Carlsons and Cape Pond and sent to Chris. We need to meet and discuss criteria for selection of parcels. Need Eric. Can't do in email. People can send comments to Chair, but deliberations can't happen outside of meeting, through email. People need to come to next meeting and discuss. TM to send info via email before next meeting, map and cut at selection criteria to get conversation going at next meeting

Discussed how Town can only pay 10% above assessed value.

Orphan parcels may be low hanging fruit. Let's go talk to Town Assessor and see what's involved in Town acquiring orphan parcels. Legal fees for town? Public notice? Would prospective buyer need to pay back taxes? Town seize? Laura and Diane and Tom will go in May. Tom and Diane to email LE with prospective 10AM time/day.

Open # Comm. Discuss report

Should open us up for qualification for grants; Diane told Larry there is no longer Watershed Protection Committee.

2019 prioritized AHC tasks:

2019 tasks: Gate in front of water house; signage around drinking water, update brochures, bulletin board at Transfer Station, removal of huge black water pipe from South Woods; prioritize and draft budget request for 2020

Need to come up with budget for our prioritized items by Fall 2019

AHC Volunteers to research how other communities have tackled large, potential 20/20 AHC projects such as bigger working with MBTA to get creosote ties replaced by cement, tap testing. Commissioners would be interested in an AHC survey of how other towns handled tap testing so we can budget for it in 2020

Creosote ties being replaced by cement ties was discussed at April 9 Selectmen meeting, when Bruce Tarr was there. Mitch noted that 500 ties between Nugent Stretch and train station would be replaced. LE to email Mitch and find out what timetable is & who's paying for it.

Attending DPW meetings: Status

Next DPW meeting: DPW office doesn't know when next meeting is. LE called 5/15 and 5/16 and will follow up. Us. They are on a Weds schedule—last one w/notes posted is Feb 6. Try and meet 1X a month. LE to hear back from DPW and inform

Want to bring up issue of Mill Brook well field at next DPW meeting – plans to close it down? Who put fence up if that is the case? Why close down a licensed drinking water source? Need to understand; bulletin board at dump also bring up at DPW meeting. How can we help keep this up to date, an info resource for Town? Esp during the water ban? Another topic to bring up at DPW meeting: what tap testing is planned for 2019? How can we help?

New Business

Water ban (discuss)

How can AHC help get message out, top of mind for people?

Nuts and Bolts:

LE will ping people 48 hrs. ahead of time, look for attendance verification.

LE to follow up with Mitch re email concerning harassment, conflict of interest, ethics, open meeting law. Other committees got this email, Diane got it, but Laura didn't Will follow up.

Next meeting: June 19 at 5:15 pm at police station

Some Interesting Links:

Report on Rockport Water at EWG:

<https://www.ewg.org/tapwater/system.php?pws=MA3252000--check> our EWQG page

MORE TESTING DATA ON THIS CONTAMINANT

MORE ABOUT THIS CONTAMINANT

Chromium (total)	+
Haloacetic acids (HAA5)	+
Perchlorate	+

WANT TO FILTER THESE CONTAMINANTS OUT?

Includes chemicals detected in 2015 for which annual utility averages exceeded an EWG-selected health guideline established by a federal or state public health authority; radiological contaminants detected between 2010 and 2015.

Bromodichloromethane <i>cancer</i>	+
Bromoform <i>cancer</i>	+
Chloroform <i>cancer</i>	+
Dibromochloromethane <i>cancer</i>	+
Radiological contaminants <i>cancer</i>	+
Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) <i>cancer</i>	+



Compliance Summary Data

State	Source ID	Current SMC/HPV	Current As Of	Qtrs with NC (of 12)	Data Last Refreshed
SDWA	MA3252000	No	03/27/2019	1	03/27/2019

Three-Year Compliance History by Quarter

State	Program/Pollutant/Violation Type	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	QTR 5	QTR 6	QTR 7	QTR 8	QTR 9	QTR 10	QTR 11	QTR 12	QTR 13*
SDWA	Source ID: MA3252000	01/01-03/31/16	04/01-06/30/16	07/01-09/30/16	10/01-12/31/16	01/01-03/31/17	04/01-06/30/17	07/01-09/30/17	10/01-12/31/17	01/01-03/31/18	04/01-06/30/18	07/01-09/30/18	10/01-12/31/18	01/01-03/31/19
	Facility-Level Status	No Violation	No Violation	Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation	No Violation
SDWA	Consumer Confidence Rule			07/01/2016 - 08/29/2016										

*Quarter 13 data is voluntarily entered and/or incomplete, and may not form a complete picture for that quarter. [Read more](#)

Informal Enforcement Actions (5 Years)

State	System	Source ID	Type of Action	Lead Agency	Date
SDWA	SDWS	MA3252000	State Formal Notice of Violation Issued	State	08/30/2016

Formal Enforcement Actions (5 Years)

State	System	Law/Section	Source ID	Action Type	Case No.	Lead Agency	Case Name	Issue/Filed Date	Settlement/Action	Settlement/Action Date	Federal Penalty	State/Local Penalty	SEP Cost	Comp Action Cost
No data records returned														

SDWA Violations and Enforcement Actions (5 Years)

Source ID	Compliance Period	Violation ID	Federal Rule	Contaminant	Category	Description	Measured Value	State MCL	Federal MCL	Status	Enforcement Actions			
											Date	Category	Description	Agency
MA3252000	07/01/2016 -	3	Consumer Confidence Rule	Consumer Confidence Rule	Other	Other Violation				Resolved	08/30/2016	Informal	State Formal Notice of Violation Issued	State
											08/29/2016	Resolving	State Compliance achieved	State

Environmental Conditions

This during the algae bloom summer of drought?

2. How does EWG's Tap Water Database compare to my local water utility's Consumer Confidence Report?

Here's a list of major differences between the two:

	Consumer Confidence Reports	EWG's Tap Water Database
Testing Details	Most show yearly averages for contaminants detected, which can hide seasonal spikes in pollution.	Gives a precise picture of water quality throughout the year, listing full test results for each pollutant.
Safety Levels	Compare pollution to regulatory limits, which are often based on political and economic compromise, not fully protecting public health.	Focuses solely on health, comparing pollutants to levels scientists say are safe for everyone, including babies and pregnant women.
Number of Contaminants	Often show only detections of federally regulated contaminants and some others the EPA wants data on. More than half of the contaminants detected in tap water had no regulatory limit.	Shows all test results for all contaminants, not just those with legal limits.
How Your Water Compares	Don't say how your water quality compares to that of other communities across the state and country.	Compares test results for all pollutants to state and national averages.

Tap testing stories: a brief sample. Haven't done research yet or found town similar to ours who involved the public, how they handled remediation

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/03/water-lead-testing-cheats-philadelphia-flint-crisis>

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/jun/02/lead-water-testing-cheats-chicago-boston-philadelphia>

Free tap testing, or sales upsell?

<https://culliganwaterma.com/free-well-water-test/> -- free testing

Saudi Arabia buying up American desert and sucking our aquifer dry:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/11/02/453885642/saudi-hay-farm-in-arizona-tests-states-supply-of-groundwater>

Revisit our 2017 Article passed at Town Meeting, prohibiting the Town from privatizing our drinking water, without first going to a town-wide ballot, perhaps reach out to other communities?