

Ossipee Aquifer Steering Committee Meeting
Friday August 13th, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Present:

Blair Folts, Tara Schroeder, GMCG
Eric Senecal, LRPC
John Shipman, Freedom
Al Levesque, Effingham
David Little, Tamworth
Roger ter Kuile, Ossipee
Tim Miner, Sandwich

1. Recap of July Meeting: Tara reviewed activities of July meeting- see minutes
2. Update of APO status by town:
 - a. Effingham (Al Levesque)

PB proposed that they set up an APO subcommittee, but won't vote on that until Sept 7th meeting. A Draft APO prepared for Effingham by Jay Buckley has been sent to PB for their use. PB placed an ad requesting subcommittee members-submit interest by Sept 2nd. Most available building lots in Effingham would be within the AP district, so stakeholder buy-in is important. Steve suggested they focus on getting the tool (APO) in place and not focus on enforcement at this point in time. Performance standards and permitted/conditional uses are the issue. The idea of 'regional' (i.e. watershed) enforcement was floated at meeting and money appropriate by towns to fund.
 - b. Tamworth (David Little)

So far they are staying close to State 'sample'. David and Ned (Beecher) have gone over and exchanged reviews with Eric- they need to meet to clear up misunderstandings and edits that won't work to get to a working model for the PB. A draft has been sent to PB members, but there is no schedule yet to meet on this APO as a board. Eric wants to make sure it is clear that APO is not overriding wetlands district ordinance; need to make sure conservation district and aquifer district are shown as distinct (they are not the same).
Eric discussed re-ordering the sections to bring critical issues up front to clarify the ordinance for applicants. Some towns thought that new format might be too confusing to change, others didn't think the order was set in stone yet in the minds of the PB's, so not a big deal. Making it easy to read and getting to the key issues up front is the goal (of LRPC's suggested re-ordering). Eric indicated that it is up to each town how they want to order sections. Discussion ensued about moving definitions to end or placing with other definitions in zoning ordinance document. Again, State sample won't change, but section order is up to town.
 - c. Freedom (John Shipman)

Freedom PB is generally supported by majority of members but they are working through the details. May go to subcommittee in August meeting to make it easier to work through and then come before whole board for final resolution in Oct/Nov. meetings. Problem with definition of what is a 'home business'- it's a loose definition now and may cause conflicts with what is a permitted use in an

aquifer district. Not a show stopper per se, but problematic and will need to be worked out. Freedom PB favors putting most critical sections, particularly Applicability, Prohibited uses and Performance Standards up front in ordinance.

- d. Sandwich (Tim Miner)

PB has been working on other issues so APO sort of dead in the water at the moment. That said, they expect to work on it over next two sessions. They are reviewing State's sample and Moultonborough's ordinance. They expect to have a draft for review by November and feel that PB will support it for the March 2011 warrant.
 - e. Ossipee (Roger ter Kuile)

Ossipee does have a 1989 water resources protection ordinance, and they want to dovetail their ordinance with the State's sample ordinance. They see it as a reordering, 'house-keeping' process to get their ordinance in line with the State's sample and include the updated District map that is based on science and not some 'generalized' concept. Roger and Eric have reached a happy medium on wording and order so feel that prospects for acceptance have improved. They hope to have a draft ready for August 17th PB meeting and Pat will present to the Board; shooting for September meeting discussion. They already have definitions section in their zoning ordinance package and will likely move APO definitions there. Principle and accessory uses are being changed to instead reflect prohibited and conditional uses to be consistent with State sample. It was pointed out that in some cases the Ossipee Ordinance is more restrictive than the State's sample.
 - f. Madison

They are again reviewing their APO, which does follow the State sample, to update with the most recent changes to the State's model and address the issue of potentially adding golf course uses.
3. Discussion on language for referencing AP map areas and wellhead protection zones.

Eric handed out sample language to provide textual language for describing groundwater protection district, so as to not rely on just a map (see handout attached). He will work on getting textual language for referencing wellhead protection zones as well. He also included some definitions and guidance on other ordinance language
 4. Timelines were reviewed

Eric reviewed timelines/deadlines for town's to meet in order to get on March 2011 warrants (reference Tara's hand out on NH town warrant deadlines). Last day for a final public hearing is January 18th. Each OW town was reviewed for progress and potential for making that deadline...most if not all meeting members were optimistic about making that deadline.
 5. Focus on tool not enforcement

Discussion about how to focus on getting APO approved as a tool and not focus on enforcement as a big issue at this time.
 6. Public outreach

Tara discussed fact sheets, FAQ's, posters that were already available (through GMCG, LRPC & the LRPC website: http://www.lakesrpc.org/services_resources.asp) and asked

how to get outreach and education out there. Eric is willing to come to each town. John favored having presentations to groups within each town, since that worked well in Freedom. Discussed such opportunities: Town libraries (Effingham, Tamworth, Sandwich), Rotary club (Ossipee), work with all Conservation Commissions, Master Plan committees (Effingham and Sandwich). John and Jay willing to help with presentations; also can get GMCG town reps involved.

7. Meeting of PB chairs

Anne Cunningham is willing to hold an informal meeting at her house (in September) with PB chairs to discuss issues and how they can help each other through the process. David suggested inviting each PB chair and at least 2 other members (including an advocate) to make sure each town is represented. This approach will be brought to Anne.

8. Discussion on BMP actions recently completed.

Tara handed out samples for local BMP projects recently completed and discussed their success. Ask if you want hard copies. Also passed out DES sheets describing BMP methods for home owners to deal with shoreline protection zone erosion. Group discussed encouraging through local representatives (Susan Wiley, Mark McConkey) the easing of permitting requirements to make implementing BMP's less onerous to homeowners and businesses wanting to mitigate water quality issues.

9. Other

Tara discussed education grants involving schools (Watershed Workbook and School Program Initiative) and value of same.

Discussed using Tamworth MP water resources section (on-line) as a sample for Sandwich and Effingham to follow. The Tamworth Master Plan Water Resources section (section 8.7 in the Natural Resources section)

See: <http://www.tamworthnh.org/admin/ulm/documents/08-Natural%20Resources.pdf>

The next meeting of the OASC will be Thursday, September 16th from 10am-12pm at GMCG's office.