



WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2025
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Barry Rosen, Ron Parenti, Matt Mostoller, Mike Geis, Joe Robb, and Dave Boccuti

Chairperson: Joe Robb

Clerk: Ron Parenti

Others in Attendance: Alissa Nicol (Select Board Liaison), YuTao Wang, Katy Orciuch, and Kim Kastens

1. Opening

WRAC chair Joe Robb opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.

2. Regular Business

- A. Public Remarks/Comments – None
- B. Review Minutes from 12 December 2025 – Ron Parenti noted that a typo found by Dave Boccuti had been corrected in the minutes posted on DocuShare. A motion to approve the revised minutes was made by Barry Rosen, seconded by Mike Geis, and then approved unanimously by the Committee members.
- C. Feasibility Study Discussion – Joe Robb led the review of progress on the feasibility study by asking for an update from the assigned authors of each section and subsection of the study outline. Ron Parenti has completed a first draft of Section 1, which is the Executive Summary, and Section 2, which provides an overview of the 2023 Management Plan written by Woodard & Curran. Both of these sections have been reviewed by Mike Geis, who has suggested the use of internal hyperlinks to help a reader navigate through the document. YuTao Wang discussed a historical stormwater spending summary prepared by the DPW, which will be incorporated into Section 2 of the report. Work is currently in progress for outline Sections 3 through 5, which cover stormwater regulations, future spending requirements, and sustainable funding options. The timeline for the public outreach, which is the topic of Section 7, was discussed, and arguments for and against an outreach event prior to Town Meeting were presented. A majority agreed that the outreach should be scheduled for late April, before the 5 May Town Meeting. It was also agreed that a draft of the study should be completed before the outreach meeting is held so that the stormwater management and funding options are clearly understood. Alissa Nicol suggested that the WRAC plan an event similar to the one held for the heat pump information session (<https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10110/2024-12-12-Town-of-Acton-Sustainability-Office-Hosts-Successful-Heat-Pump-Pizza-Party?bidId=>). Suggested contacts for event planning are Kaila Sauer (Assistant Planner) and Lauren West (Sustainability Office).



Several methods for publicizing the event were discussed, including a direct mailing, email notice, and the publication of a story in the Acton Exchange. Any announcement that would necessitate a monetary expenditure would require Select Board approval of a budget request.

- D. WRAC Contribution to the Town's 2024 Annual Report – The Committee has been notified that its contribution to the 2024 Annual Report is due by 28 February. The report submitted the previous year was reviewed by Committee members, and Joe Robb asked for suggestions of topics to be included in the 2024 report. The suggestions included a review of the task list presented to the Select Board at the beginning of the calendar year, and the Committee's progress on the Board's directive to initiate a Stormwater Feasibility Study. Nicol suggested that the report include the Committee's interactions with Corey York, QinRui Pang, YuTao Wang, and other Town staff during calendar 2024. Parenti volunteered to write a first draft of the report, which will be reviewed at the next WRAC meeting in mid-February.
- E. Any Other New Business – Alissa Nicol asked if the Committee had commented on the 2024 NMI Superfund Site Groundwater Report, but it was determined that the WRAC had not reviewed the document and that the deadline for responses has passed. Mostoller noted that the Water District did submit a comment and the report has been reviewed by the Town's Health Department. Kim Kastens then discussed the comments submitted by Green Acton, which notes that the NMI report does not clearly illustrate the effectiveness of the ground water clean-up efforts in reducing contaminant plumes. Kastens expressed the opinion that insufficient resources had been applied by the report authors to the data analysis and reporting tasks.

3. **Adjournment**

Committee members agreed to hold their next meeting on 20 February 2025 at 7pm. The primary topic for that meeting will be a discussion of the progress on the Stormwater Feasibility Study. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt Mostoller and seconded by Mike Geis. This motion was unanimously approved by Committee members at 8:25 pm.

Meeting Chat File

19:03:51 From Alissa Nicol to Host and panelists:

I'm multi-tasking, attending another meeting for a bit, so will turn on video shortly when I'm done.

19:11:07 From Kim Kastens to Host and panelists:

docushare worked for me for a moment, and then went back to "invalid license"

19:43:45 From Kim Kastens to Host and panelists:

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