



Approved - January 27, 2010

**Water Resource Protection Subcommittee of the Durham Planning Board
Meeting Minutes of Wednesday September 16, 2009
Town Council Chambers, Durham Town Hall
8:00 A.M.**

Members Present: Jamie Houle, Dwight Baldwin, Dave Cedarholm, Dwight Baldwin, Brian Gallagher, Stephen Roberts, Robin Mower, Jim Campbell

Members Absent: Richard Kelly

1) Call the meeting to order and acknowledge absentees

Chair Houle called the meeting to order at 8:10 am

2) Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved by a consensus of the members.

3) Acceptance of minutes

a. June 16, 2009

Dwight Baldwin suggested minor changes to the minutes.

Robin Mower MOVED to accept the June 16, 2009 minutes as amended. This was SECONDED by Jamie Houle and APPROVED unanimously.

b. July 28, 2009

Robin Mower MOVED to accept the July 28, 2009 minutes as written. This was Seconded by Jamie Houle and APPROVED unanimously.

4) Review of various materials and findings resulting from investigations by members since the last meeting

Chair Houle reported that the stormwater subgroup has been working on their assigned duties. David Cedarholm said the group will be meeting again on Friday September 18th. He said the group has been reviewing SWPP requirements from other areas and are in the process of putting together a checklist of what would be required for a submittal to be used by both the Planning Board and the developer. Mr. Cedarholm said this would also be used to determine what should

be included in the regulations. Robin Mower asked if it would include information on whether or not a third party is needed to evaluate a project. Chair Houle suggested determining if a project is a major or minor project and a major project would automatically require third party oversight. Dave Cedarholm said the Planning Board would be able to decide what constitutes a major or minor project.

The members discussed the difference between redevelopment and development. Dave Cedarholm noted that some redevelopment is preferable if it makes a significant improvement to water quality and stormwater runoff. Chair Houle agreed, saying that the redevelopment goals need to be quantified. The members discussed what would trigger a review of a redevelopment project for stormwater improvement requirements. They also discussed providing flexibility to the Planning Board. Chair Houle said that many towns in the area have gone through the process of readdressing stormwater regulations and noted that Brentwood's proposed ordinance is one of the better ones. He will provide a copy to all members for their review.

Jim Campbell distributed maps from Brian Gallagher of the Oyster River Watershed compiled by Strafford Regional Planning.

Dave Cedarholm suggested beginning to compile a list of areas in zoning that the subcommittee would want to address such as redevelopment requirements. Chair Houle said through zoning the Town has a lot of authority. He noted that the Town has impaired waters which are federally mandated to comply with regulations, so if a development abuts an impaired water, a low impact development (LID) needs to be implemented.

The members discussed a database which allows residents to input their zip code to determine the quality of their town's drinking water supply. Robin Mower said when she put in Durham's zip code a comment came up on the website that there have been effluent violations 95 times over the past 12 quarters. Dave Cedarholm replied that is likely due to errors during the input process of the daily monitoring reports (DMR) that the waste water treatment plant must submit. He explained that if there is an error in the report it becomes a violation. Mr. Cedarholm said he would forward this information to Dan Peterson.

5) Other Business

- a) Discussion of next steps and assignments – The members discussed that the Stormwater information will be addressed first, but that the groundwater information is also being looked at and addressed by a subgroup. David Cedarholm discussed with the members the monumental task of writing stormwater ordinances that will be acceptable to the Town of Durham and noted that the same would be true of groundwater protection ordinances.

Stephen Roberts said he has a model ordinance that he does not feel is overreaching and asked David Cedarholm to review the model. Mr. Cedarholm replied that he would review the model ordinance and noted that groundwater rules in New Hampshire are fairly complete. The members discussed aquifer overlays and groundwater ordinances their differences and what they each pertain to.

- b) Confirmation of date of next meeting - The members decided to have a regular meeting on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be October 21st. The members will determine if the meeting will begin at 7:30 or 8:00 am

6) Administrative – no further administrative items at this meeting.

7) Adjournment

Robin Mower MOVED to adjourn the September 16, 2009 meeting of the Source Water Protection Subcommittee at 9:20 am. This was SECONDED by David Cedarholm and APPROVED unanimously.