

**CANOE RIVER AQUIFER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – February 3, 2011**

Minutes of the meeting held by the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee on Thursday, February 3, 2011 beginning at 1 PM at the Easton Water Division, 417 Bay Road, Easton, MA.

Members present: Wayne P. Southworth, Easton; Janice Fowler, Easton; John Fresh, Jr., Easton; Kevin O'Donnell, Mansfield; Bob Boette, Foxboro; Leo Potter, Foxboro; Leonard Flynn, Mansfield; Jennifer Carlino, Norton; Dave Masciarelli, Sharon.

Guests: Adrienne Edwards, Easton GIS Specialist; David McGowan - Land Protection Specialist, The Nature Conservancy.

- I. Call to Order** - Wayne Southworth called the meeting to order at 1 PM.
- II. Review Minutes of January 6, 2011** - Boette/Flynn moved to accept the minutes of January 6, 2011. VOTED
- III. Open Space Map & Greenbelt Update** - Flynn: just came from the Registry of Deeds where I recorded a document regarding property in the Wading River area.

IV. David McGowan, Land Protection Specialist from the Nature Conservancy
Southworth introduced Mr. McGowan. McGowan: the Nature Conservancy is an international organization; active in thirty countries around the world with chapters in all fifty (50) states; my job is land protection in southeast Massachusetts; last year we closed on a piece of land in Taunton on the Three Mile River; the other thing the Conservancy is working on is potential dam removal projects; currently speaking with the owners of the Whittenton dam in Taunton; some dam owners can not afford to repair a dam.

Southworth gave a brief background of the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee: originally formed to protect the water supply of our five communities; in existence since 1987; the Canoe River is a pretty clean river; it is amazing what has been done (almost half the river completely protected); the Flint Farm in Mansfield would be a great asset; worked hard to designate the Canoe River as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and then a Sole Source Aquifer; have helped write water protection grants; basically our objectives overlap each other.

Flynn: we welcome you with open arms and interest; the Canoe River is a tributary of the Taunton River; there are five owners along the river we have been talking to; trying to get conservation restriction along the river; the Flints originally owned 500 acres – they are now down to 100.

Carlino to Mr. McGowan: do you require public access? McGowan: not necessarily; public access could be on a specific trail and they can not go off it.

Flynn: if it is government money, it has to be open to the public; the NRT has partnered with the Conservancy in the past but not recently.

Southworth: one of the things we do every year is have an awareness day; we are finding it more difficult with all our outreach activities – competing with many other activities; in the past two last year had one at the LL Bean store and then at the Bass Pro Shop; some of our other events, we have run into inclement weather. McGowan: let us know if you have an event; perhaps you can use our membership list. Southworth: we are always looking for speakers; will include you on our mailing list; look forward to a relationship working together – think you want to preserve the same things we do.

V. Discuss Canoe River Awareness Day 2011 Options – Easton on April 30, 2011 or Mansfield on May 14, 2011 - O'Donnell: Kurt Gaffney has no problem with having it at the Mansfield plant; May 14th would be better.

Highlights of discussion: have talked about the two locations; lean towards Mansfield as we might have a chance to get the canoes in the river; next meeting would like to finalize the date; would be looking into being a partner in your open house from 10AM to 12 Noon; will be using the whole building; important to have bathrooms; going to have refreshments.

VI. CRAAC 25th Anniversary Celebration 2012 - Southworth: need to secure location and speaker; look into funding; have talked about the TCP in Norton as a location; other possible locations - Borderland or the Sharon Community Center; earlier discussed if we could seek donations and not have to charge; do not have to provide a meal – could go with a lighter fare; a good keynote speaker would be Bill Keating who has strong roots with us.

A suggestion was made to create a moveable, standing display that would travel to the Town Halls and libraries (one month in each location) of each community within the CRAAC during the months of January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December. Ideas for display: a digital photo display; display name suggestion - “CRAAC Educational Outreach Kiosk”; display itself should have a base with locking wheels and a removal five foot tall wall area; items to include - a copy of the original legislation, list of past and present members, map of past and present land protection, CRAAC brochure, website information, local land trust information and photographs; display could then be a permanent educational tool.

Edwards: on the history page of the Canoe River have added a time line.

VII. Adjourn - Boette/Flynn moved to adjourn. VOTED Meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM.

Next Meeting will be held in Sharon on 03-03-2011.