

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

**MEETING MINUTES**

February 14, 2012

This meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those in attendance were:

**Cambridge Water Board (CWB):** Ann Roosevelt, Phil Weinberg, James Burruss and Richard Johnson

**Cambridge Water Department (CWD):** Sam Corda, Fred Centanni, Mark Gallagher, Tim MacDonald, Chip Norton and Linda Vierboom.

**A. MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2012 MEETING**

Mr. Burruss moved and Mr. Weinberg seconded the motion to approve the January 20, 2012 minutes as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

*Fresh Pond Reservation Shared Use Recommendations Implementation Planning* – The “Shared Use Recommendation Implementation by Chapters” was handed out and reviewed. The five chapters discussed were: 1) Norms of Behavior, 2) Communication/Education/Outreach, 3) Group Permit Guiding Principles, 4) An Approach to Areas and Uses at Fresh Pond, and 5) Other Issues and Items. The City and the Water Department have accepted the recommendations, in general, from the “Shared Use” public process. All documents from the process are available on the CBI website at ([cbuilding.org/freshpond](http://cbuilding.org/freshpond)). During the shared use implementation process various sections of the plan will be brought to the Water Board for review, discussion and acceptance on an as needed basis.

Chapter 1) Norms of Behavior: The intent is to have the Norms developed be part of the policies and procedures for the Reservation.

Chapter 2) Communication/Education/Outreach: The current website is not user or maintenance friendly and is in the process of being updated to be easier to navigate and maintain. Included in the communication plan will be daily posts via calendars and social media consistent with City policy. An interim signage plan will also be initiated to determine the best methodologies to ultimately implement permanent signage for Fresh Pond that is to be consistent with the Master Plan.

Chapter 3) Group Permit Guiding Principles: Permitting is being worked on and we are planning to meet with various high schools to establish the process for permitting their running events at Fresh Pond (Cambridge entities will be given priority). An example of the changes will be that runners will be required to wear numbers on their shirts to be easily identified. Permits will be revoked if guidelines are not followed. The Board discussed enforcement options for non compliance of permitting guidelines.

Chapter 4) An Approach to Areas and Uses at Fresh Pond: The Kingsley Park Restoration Project (first meeting was held on December 7, 2011 to define the existing conditions and define the project goals) will be the first project that we will work to implement the recommendations from the “shared use” process.

Chapter 5) Other Issues and Items: The issue of nonresident dogs being allowed off leash was discussed and it was stated that if this were to change, allowing non-resident dogs to be off leash, it could only be done by an ordinance change as voted by the City Council. On the issue of enforcement it is hoped that the “Shared Use” process has increased the awareness of various issues at the Reservation and encourages self enforcement of all of the recommendations as they are implemented. In addition, the Department has hired a Working Supervisor and plan to hire a part time Ranger to help on the Reservation as well. Ultimately, it is anticipated that self enforcement will be a key part of the final enforcement strategies implemented at Fresh Pond.

Overall, the Water Board would like to be more proactive in the various projects within the Fresh Pond Reservation. It was suggested that the Board work to assist the Department in areas such as the “Norms of Behavior” prior to implementation. It was suggested that the “Shared Use Plan” be a standing agenda item for future meetings. Although, the shared use recommendations have been generally accepted by the City and the Department, the Water Board is not ready at this time to vote on a general acceptance of the recommendations. Mr. Corda will work to organize a plan for Water Board discussion of pertinent “Shared Use” implementation topics to be brought to the Board at the appropriate times.

## C. OPERATIONS

### **Transmission and Distribution:**

None

### **Watershed:**

*Land Acquisition* – The City has received a \$500,000 Drinking Water Supply Protection Grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) and is moving forward to purchase the DeNormandie parcel in the Town of Lincoln. This 55 acre property surrounds approximately 1,800 linear feet of the Hobbs Brooks headwaters which makes this a significant purchase for watershed protection. Purchasing this property would prevent the development of at least eleven dwellings with septic systems. This purchase would also create an opportunity to improve the Route 2 highway storm water runoff to meet Class A surface water quality standards and as a result we will work with Mass DOT to achieve this goal. The DEP Grant will be available after July 1, 2012 thus giving time for due diligence, surveying, legal work and funding to complete the purchase. The Law Department is drafting the DEP documents necessary to obtain the grant and the Water Board will be asked to vote on the purchase at the next meeting.

### **Business:**

None

### **Water Operations:**

None

**Engineering Division:**

None

**D. ACTION ITEMS**

None

**E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF INTEREST**

None

**F. NEW BUSINES**

None

Mr. Weinberg moved and Mr. Johnson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 pm.  
The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**G. NEXT MEETING DATES /TOPICS**

- Tuesday, March 13, 2012 – Approved/Distribution/Engineering Update
- Tuesday, April 10, 2012 - Approved/Water Operations (treatment/lab/watershed) Update
- Tuesday, May 15, 2012 – TBA/Administration (IT/cross connection/AMR) Update
- Tuesday, June 12, 2012 – TBA/FY13 Budget Update
- Tuesday, September 11, 2012 – TBA/Shared Use Implementation Planning Update

Minutes approved by vote of the Board.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ann C. Roosevelt, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_