

## **ABC Stormwater Flooding Board**

### **Arlington – Belmont - Cambridge**

Minutes of 11/18/2014, 6:00 pm to 7:30pm, Arlington Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Selectmen's Hearing Room

Minutes submitted by Wayne Chouinard

**Board Members Present:** Mike Santoro (MS), Wayne Chouinard(WAC)

**Members of the Public Present:** Elsie Fiore, Anne Marie Lambert

#### 1. Public Comments:

- a. Historic flooding photos were presented for viewing by Ms. Fiore.
- b. Ms. Fiore discussed events of historic sewage overflows and the impacts on the Alewife area caused by MWRA overflows and Cambridge CSO's into Alewife Brook.
- c. Ms. Lambert reported that the Belmont Stormwater Working Group presented proposals to the Town of Belmont High School and Library for Low Impact Development upgrades prepared as a result of the recent 604B Grant.
- d. Ms. Lambert suggested consideration be given to evaluate whether Claypit Pond could be utilized as a temporary stormwater storage area to mitigate impacts of peak runoff issues.
- e. Ms. Lambert informed the Board that there a recent public hearing pertaining to the Belmont Center Reconstruction, and at this meeting there was a discussion about increasing green space and potentially implementing stormwater BMP's.
- f. Ms. Lambert explained that the development of the Silver Maple Forest will cause flooding increase even though the engineering design followed DEP stormwater guidelines. She detailed that the DEP guidelines use old climate data and newer data should be utilized.
- g. Ms. Lambert expressed concern that the Mugar property could be developed utilizing similar guidelines and that the best flooding protection would be to keep the area as green space.

#### 2. Administration:

- a. Acceptance of previous minutes to be moved to next meeting due to attendance.

#### 3. Issues & Activities:

- a. The Board discussed the need to review or update State and Municipal ordinances to adapt to climate changes.
- b. Sewage overflows
- c. Consider requesting DCR to provide an updated presentation detailing the operations of the Mystic Lake Dam and Amelia Earhart Dam and how the procedures affect flooding.
- d. The Board discussed how new climate trends have significantly affected flooding impacts and how climate change has increased the effects of flooding, as well as how Community Policies to reduce impacts including ordinance updates and the requirement to update climate data could be considered to address concerns.
- e. Determining long term goals to set for the Board including;
  1. How to reduce peak flows
  2. Facilitating an outreach campaign
  3. Review and discuss implementation of DCR Master Plan Projects
- f. Better advertising of Public Hearing advertising

#### 4. Meeting Materials: none

#### 5. Next Meeting Date: January 13, 2015