

WLMAC MEETING NOTES OF JULY 17, 2012

Present: Greta Eckhardt, Chuck Olmstead, Barry Rosen

Note Taker(s): Barry Rosen

Chairperson: Barry Rosen

Called To Order: The chairperson called the meeting to order on July 17, 2012 at 8:10 PM ET.

New Business:

1. Approval of Minutes: Mr. Olmstead moved and Ms. Eckhardt seconded a motion to accept the minutes of June 19, 2012 as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.
2. Member Updates:
 - 2.1. Mr. Rosen informed the membership that he has not received any response from the AWD commissioners on the letter that he was asked to send to them regarding the current WLMAC staffing level along with some ideas on how the AWD might increase the visibility of the open position to the greater Acton community.
3. Confirmation of next WLMAC Meeting Date: The membership looked at their August schedules and confirmed that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the WLMAC would be held on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at the AWD HQ beginning at 8:00 PM ET. This meeting would be in addition to the planned special meeting of the WLMAC in the next agenda item.
4. Special WLMAC Meeting Date with Chris Allen:
 - 4.1. Mr. Rosen explained that Mr. Allen currently has a number of scheduling problems which restrict his ability to meet with the WLMAC.
 - 4.2. The team discussed a number of alternatives that might possibly enable such a meeting with the District Manager.
 - 4.3. The consensus was that an early morning meeting during regular AWD business hours should be attempted. The members stated that they would each adjust their work schedules for a day in order for this to take place. Two suggested dates/times were proposed with the meeting lasting about one hour.
 - 4.3.1. Wednesday, July 25, 2012 at 7:00 AM at AWD HQ
 - 4.3.2. Thursday, July 26, 2012 at 7:00 AM at AWD HQ
 - 4.4. Mr. Rosen volunteered to contact Mr. Allen tomorrow (7/18/12) to discuss.
5. Summary of AWD Commissioners Meeting of July 16, 2012: There were only two agenda items on the schedule for discussion.

- 5.1. A letter was received from was received from the Acton Board of Health. It was the result of a discussion that Matt Mostoller had with Doug Halley. The letter stated that the Board of Health was in support of the new treatment plant that will be built in South Acton and asked how it can help in the future. The letter also mentioned that the Board has received concerns from citizens on a regular basis about water. There were no specifics listed.
 - 5.1.1. The commissioners decided that they needed to make a formal response back to the Board of Health rather than just have Chris write a letter.
 - 5.1.2. They discussed whether/how they might have an executive session with the Board or some members to bring them up-to-date on the encroachment issue in South Acton to see if they may be able to help in some way. It was not certain whether this could be done but legal counsel advised that she had contacts to find out if it was legal if they commissioners decide to pursue.
- 5.2. The finance committee has been working with Chris and Mary Jo on funding methods for the AWD's debt service. There seemed to be some concern about constantly raising the water rates. *A concern was that relying on the water rates for funding was not reliable enough since a wet summer could reduce the amount of water sold.* The cost projections were done for 10 years although the immediate concern was for the next five years. There were differing opinions on how to do the financing within the finance committee and because one of the commissioners was absent (Steve Stunz), they decided not to further discuss or vote on a decision.
 - 5.2.1. Eliminating the winter water rate is being considered. Matt stated that he does see evidence indicating that the split rate was implemented for conservation reasons. He is not certain that the higher summer rate has encouraged water conservation. The District has a number of other conservation programs that should suffice.
 - 5.2.2. Adding a line to each water bill that would read "debt service" is being considered. This would be levied on a per unit basis so that buildings having multiple dwellings would have a fee levied on each unit.
 - 5.2.3. Chris indicated to the commissioners that he would like them to vote their decision in August so that it can be implemented on the September bills. He would like the residents to get used to this line before it must be increased to pay for the additional debt service that will come online.

Old Business:

6. Review and Discussion of Questions to be Submitted to Mr. Allen:
 - 6.1. The committee reviewed the questions that were submitted. Some members stated that they may have a few additional questions.

- 6.2. Ms. Eckhardt noted that many of the questions could be grouped into logical areas such as those involving a specific well or topic. This would help us stay focused and allow us to get through more of them in the allocated time.
- 6.3. Ms. Eckhardt agreed to take the submitted questions and attempt to organize and edit them prior to submitting them to Mr. Allen.
- 6.4. Members were asked to email any additional questions to Ms. Eckhardt by early Wednesday morning (7/18/12).

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Olmstead and seconded by Ms. Eckhardt, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting on July 17, 2012 at 9:18 PM ET.