

POTTER HILL DAM INFORMATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

June 29, 2021

Call to Order.

1. Attendance and meeting protocol – 5 minutes

- a. Roger
- b. Chip
- c. Howie
- d. Jim
- e. Bob
- f. Marie
- g. Carl
- h. Scott Bill Hirst

Ask and be acknowledged to speak

Collaborate on meeting notes

2. Review and accept the prior meeting minutes – 5 minutes

- a. 6-22 meeting minutes were accepted

3. Review the Well Survey mailing list and respondents if received – 30
Minutes

- Jim called Gina Fuller today 6/29
 - Gina indicated that the list was being currently updated as some addressing was incorrect for Bradford that was mailed to Westerly and letters were returned. The updates will be completed tomorrow.
 - Gina was also updating the list of respondents.
 - Jim asked Gina if the lists could be sent as is to for the committee to begin review tonight and be updated later in the week. Gina agreed to send the lists as is and received the list shortly before this meeting.
 - Gina indicated that Fuss and Oneil provided an impact map that was used to select survey recipients
 - Gina mentioned the GIS maps on the Town of Westerly website
- The committee reviewed the list
 - There is a need to revise the list and separate street name and number to sort it effectively
 - 58 people in Westerly surveyed with 11 responses
 - 78 people in Hopkinton surveyed with 26 responses

- It was agreed that there needs to be an effort to engage more Survey respondents
 - Scott suggested the Sun should be notified.
 - Facebook community pages for Hopkinton, westerly
 - Could there be a Town of Hopkinton robocall
- The Ried's on Chase Hill were under the impression that there was to be a 1 ½ drop in the river and there would not be any impact to their dug well. They were not aware of the proposed drop of up to 5 feet and once they were aware they filled out the survey.

4. Discuss flood risks – 30 minutes

- DEM Risk assessment – Chip will research
 - Possibly in 1993
 - Condition assessment
 - Per Nils (quoted in the Westerly Sun) Dam is good and Gates poor
- Westerly is at the greatest risk for a Dam failure according to the town manager
 - How was this determined
 - What is the failure assessment with downstream impact
- Proposed removal design will decrease upstream flooding and increase downstream risk
 - Nils has not modeled downstream risk
- Are decisions being made on annual forecasts, 100 year, 500 year

5. Begin to formalize what questions our committee has for the Town of Westerly on the Potter Hill Dam – 30 minutes

- The team began efforts on a list of questions

6. Discuss next steps – 10 minutes

Next Council meeting is on Tuesday July 6th

Scott will ask the council to encourage well survey responses

This committee will meet on Tuesday July 6th