



MEETING AGENDA

Groton Utilities Watershed Source Protection Plan First Stakeholders Meeting

Thursday, October 5, 2006
10:00 am – 12:30 pm

10:00	Welcome and introductions / Misc. Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Website	Al Dion Rick Stevens
	Project History (Recap)	Karl Acimovic
	Funding Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislative Update• Rep. Lenny Winkler Letter• Filing for 319 Grant	Al Dion / Lori Mathieu
	What have we accomplished?	Chi Ho Sham
	What happens next? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Over-all Schedule• Subcommittees charge with general discussion:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Communications○ Land Information○ GIS○ Procurement – RFQ / RFP	Lori Mathieu / Laurie Giannotti Facilitate – Chi Ho Sham Assist – Al Dion – Lori Mathieu – Laurie Giannotti
12:30	Lunch Wrap-up Schedule next meeting	

Meeting Location
Groton Utilities
Julio H. Leandri Administration Building
Conference Room
(Directions Attached)

Driving Directions

1240 Poquonnock Road

Groton, CT 06340

- ❖ **From Hartford, New Haven, traveling North on 1-95N.**
 - **Take Exit 88.**
 - **At the end of the exit ramp turn right onto Route 117/Newtown Road.**
 - **Follow Route 117 and take a right at the second light onto Route 1/Fort Hill Road.**
 - **Continue on Route 1 and at the second traffic light, turn right onto Filter Plant Drive. (You will see the Groton Utilities sign on the left).**
 - **At the gate, dial in 005 which will ring on Ron's, Water Division Administrative Secretary, desk. He will open the gate for you.**
 - **At the fork, go left and continue past the Filter Plant (the water is to your left). Follow the road around, bearing right.**
 - **At the Electric/Water Operations Building, please park either at the front or on the side of the building.**

- ❖ **From Providence, Mystic, Stonington, traveling South on I-95S.**
 - **Take Exit 88.**
 - **At end of the exit ramp turn left onto Route 117/Newtown Road.**
 - **Follow Route 117 and take a right at the second light onto Route 1/Fort Hill Road.**
 - **Continue on Route 1 and at the second traffic light, turn right onto Filter Plant Drive. (You will see the Groton Utilities sign on the left).**
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SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM MEETING MINUTES

Re: Drinking Water Quality Management Plan

A Source Water Protection Meeting for the establishment of a Drinking Water Quality Management Plan was held at the Groton Utilities Operations Complex Julio H. Leandri Administration Building Conference Room on October 5, 2006 at 10:00am.

- Present were:
 - Lori Mathieu DPH
 - Laurie Giannotti DPH
 - Jerry Iwan DPH
 - Eric Thomas DEP – Watershed Management and Coordination
 - Mary-Beth Hart DEP – Long Island Sound Programs
 - Chi Ho Sham The Cadmus Group
 - Jeff Butensky US EPA New England
 - Al Dion Groton Utilities
 - Rick Stevens Groton Utilities
 - Karl Acimovic Consultant, Groton Utilities
 - Ron Bata Groton Utilities
 - Michael Schaefer City of Norwich
 - Marcia Vlaun Town of Montville
 - Brian Palaia Town of Ledyard
 - Deborah Jones Town of Groton
 - Tom Wagner Town of Waterford
 - Sidney Van Zandt Groton Resident
 - Steve Mansfield Ledge Light Health District

Items of discussion:

Al Dion Comments:

- Opened the meeting by welcoming and thanking everyone for attending.
- Brief explanation of current DWQMP meetings and side meetings were structured to begin process of bringing onboard a consultant.
 - In the future meetings will be open door for the public to attend.
- There will be an AWWA Webcast presented by Groton Utilities on October 18th entitled Strategic Solutions in Distribution Water Quality. This webcast can be used as a tool for Source Water and efficiently bringing water to the customer's tap.

Lori Mathieu Comments:

- Explained a Save the Date link for upcoming meetings on the DPH website which concerns new water systems and their protection. (See www.dph.state.ct.us/brs/water/dwd.htm)

- Plan is to invite Town Planners and others to the meetings.
- Sign up at the DPH website, limited spaces, filling fast.
- First two sessions are planned for:
 - October 24th – Hartford
 - November 16th – Prospect

Al Dion Comments:

- Copies of the committee breakdown into subcommittees were passed out.
 - Attached
- Chi Ho will review and ask for comments later in the meeting.

Rick Stevens Comments:

- Feels the Committee should bring reservoir planning down to homeowner level.
- We will be working with UCONN, which has a good landscaping program, as well as with other aiding agencies, such as water conservation agencies.

Karl Acimovic Comments:

- Described in detail the History Document. History document will be placed on the website. (See www.grotonutilities.com/water_dwqmp.asp)
- Handouts showing stormwater areas. Stormwater areas will be placed on the website.
- (See <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/urbanmapresult.cfm?state=ct>)
- Explained the 319 Grant Application for funding that was sent to EPA via CT State DEP.
- Passed around a copies of a recent study completed for showing development in the watershed areas and their importance. The Niantic River Watershed showing existing and future pollutant impacts. (See www.kxchange.com/nrwp/_docs/nrwpp/appendixf.pdf).
- Planning to develop a GU Reservoir map showing buildup on the Groton Reservoir.

Al Dion Comments:

- Funding
 - Still no government funding.
 - DPH and committee must continuously search for funding opportunities such as the Federal Clean Water Act 319 NPS Management Grant program.

Mike Murphy Comments:

- What are the agencies that must sign off on the 319 Grant? If it is foreseen we have no governmental funding what are our possible chances of getting state agency funding?
- Is DEP in consultation with EPA to aid in the process? Is there communication?

Eric Thomas Comments:

- Described the funding process for the CT DEP 319 NPS Management Grant program cycle from proposal to approval.
- Current cycle for funding is in year 2007.
- Currently no commitment from US EPA.
- Work with Marry-Beth Hart on guidance towards and administration of the Niantic River Watershed Protection Plan, contracted to Kleinschmidt Associates of Essex, CT. Final Plan submission expected by CT DEP soon.

Lori Mathieu Comments:

- Explanation of interest from OPM.
 - Very interested in program, however, funding support remains questionable.

Jerry Iwan Comments:

- Are other grants being circulated through EPA.
 - Even if it is not qualified, the word gets circulated that we are in search for funding through many agencies.

Eric Thomas Comments:

- Agreed that feedback of a funding search could reach many different agencies.
- Gave deadlines for submittals for different grants.
- To his knowledge, no submittals to the national EPA Targeted Watershed Grant program had been approved within the state of Connecticut. CT DEP is discussing a future application to address water management strategies for abating nutrients-impaired waterbodies within the Thames River Basin.
- Recommend that GU and team members visit the EPA website for Targeted Watersheds Grants Program to look at submittal approvals. (See www.epa.gov/twg)

Marcia Vlaun Comments:

- We should look into the possibility of other sources such as Governor's Economic Development for "Save the Subase." There could possibly be a funding source since the Submarine Base falls within the GU watershed.

Al Dion Comments:

- Funding is a very important item and should be a high priority.

Lori Mathieu Comments:

- Another source is to pursue funding through COG reporting.

Chi Ho Sham Comments:

- Sounds like a lot of ideas from different members, all probably have ideas they can come up with and share.
- Deadlines are near; we need to do our research for all submittals.
- Remember, it is tough to get money to protect watersheds; it is easy to get money to restore watersheds, an uphill battle to overcome.
- Explained in detail, the Development of a Drinking water Quality Management Plan for Groton Utilities, the report prepared by the Cadmus Group as a handout that explains the Workshop Series.
 - Attached

Laurie Giannotti Comments:

- Explained the handouts for the different committees handout and their purpose.
 - Attached
- We must ensure that we all work together so not to lose focus.
- Explained each job description.

Al Dion Comments:

- Committees are not set in stone. If you have another individual who could better suit the job description, let Laurie know.

Chi Ho Sham Comments:

- More committees may be needed down the road, such as:
 - Water information committee
 - Education committee
- Make sure to use the website, it is a good tool to broadcast information.
 - Communications committee has a key role.

- Land information committee may need to be broken into a Water information committee as well. Between Land and Water Information, there may be too much information for just one committee.
- GIS Committee is extremely crucial. Maps and pictorial handouts or links are a crucial interest item.

Jerry Iwan Comments:

- Who will bring information from the different committees to the DWQMP committee?

Laurie Giannotti Comments:

- Committee chairmen will bring updates to the Oversight Committee.

Sidney VanZandt Comments:

- Is it possible to view the watershed?

Rick Stevens Comments:

- Groton Utilities will extend an invitation to tour the Water Treatment Facility and the Groton Reservoir.
 - Two tour dates will be circulated and made available for sign up.

Consultant Discussion:

- Murphy – His interpretation is the Subcommittees will be working the timeline until the Consultant is brought onboard.
- Dion – Subcommittees continue to get enough information to provide to the consultant to take them to Phase II.
- Iwan – The Committees will continue to provide information to the Consultant throughout. Once the Consultant is brought onboard the Committee's commitment is not complete.
- Murphy – Disagree, if we intend to pay a consultant an extensive amount of money, they should be held responsible for the information in their recommendation report.
- Dion – Consultant will come back with their recommendation based on the baseline information the Committee gives them.
- Vlaun – Suggests the next meeting should be directed to what the consultant will do. We need to come up with their ultimate goal and what we expect. It makes no sense for the Subcommittees to go out to work on information collection when we currently do not have the Consultant's goals set.
- Giannotti – The two subcommittees, Land Information and Consultant Procurement need to get together via email / phone / meetings and come up with a list to present at the next meeting of what we expect of the consultant.

Lori Mathieu Comments:

- Agree that we need to have a Water Information as well as a Land Information Subcommittee.
- May need to organize another group to develop a model plan help the State DPH to put together for their report on what the Committee could be doing now prior to hiring a consultant.

Jerry Iwan Comments:

- Reminder to always maintain communication.
 - WUCCS Committee almost failed due to lack of communication.
 - During the legislative stages, this DWQMP forum is already ahead of where the WUCCS was at this time due to all communities' involvement and the ability to communicate with each other.
 - Each community representative should get together a listing of all limitations and resources that could be provided to the consultant. This listing could be helpful in DPH preparing the goal and expectation plan for the consultant hiring.

Lori Mathieu Comments:

- Feel as though the Council of Governments should be more involved and will be able to add more aid down the road.

Laurie Giannotti Comments:

- Explained the DWQMP Timeline.
 - Attached

Al Dion Comments:

- Thank everyone for attending and for the continued program support.

Next meeting: (Dion)

Location: Groton Utilities Operations Complex, Julio H. Leandri Administration Building Conference Room

Date: Thursday, November 8, 2006

Time: 10:00am – 12:30pm

Meeting adjourned.