

Watertown Stormwater Advisory Committee (SAC) minutes

September 21, 2023 4:00 PM @ Virtually

In attendance: Janet Buck (Chair), Steve Magoon, Cambria Ung. **Missing:** Tyler Glode, Laurel Schwab, Katie Swan

Visitors: Nancy Hammett, David Gardner, Mike Aparo - DPW

Welcome : Meeting called to order at 4:00 PM

- I. **Discussions / Actions: Approval of Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the March 2023 meeting were approved.
- II. **Reports/ Status Updates**
 - A. **Committee membership:** There are currently three positions open. Nancy Hammett is interviewing for one when she gets back from vacation. No one is sure whether Nick Haddad is on the committee or interviewing for it. Janet and Steve will try to find out.
 - B. **Other Grants Status:** No updates
 - C. **MS4 Permit :** No updates
 - D. **Community Outreach Efforts:**
 1. Schools – The 7th grade river walk was once again a successful venture.
 2. Hosmer and Cuniff – Someone should reach out to see if the CRWA is available to repeat the 5th grade event they have sponsored in the past. Tyler ?
 3. Reaching out to make presentations to Watertown Forward and/or Community Chats, with a “get to know Watertown’s environmental efforts” theme.
 4. Same for new residents in new housing developments. Same for church groups. Table at the Farmers Market. Lots of material is already available to use from DPW.
 5. Simple intro that addresses questions like “Where does the rain go and why does it matter?” “Why are they always opening up the streets?”
 6. Faire on the Square – As of the writing of these notes, the Faire has come and gone again. We had many visitors despite questionable weather. Thanks to Steve, Katie and David Gardner for being there.
 - 7.
 - E. **New Business / Discussions:**
 1. Nancy said that the regulatory environment is starting to get active again. We will have to revisit the ordinance, monitoring results and compliance. Nancy is

on the Board of Mass Rivers Alliance, which offers good guidance. She raised the question of where the City is in the lineup for current grant opportunities.

2. Phosphorous - David had wanted to discuss phosphorous reduction grants but got no feedback from Matt. It is now too late to apply for any ARPA funding that might have helped. Nancy and David will meet before our next meeting, since she comes from a policy and finance background and he comes from the engineering side. Cambria is also very familiar with these issues.
3. Janet raised a question about the water filtration product that was sent around via email. No feedback from anyone. It was the first impression of a few that it was mainly for use in construction sites. But it could also be used for selective private sites such as large parking lots near the river. Hopefully we could discuss this in more detail next time after people read it.
4. BMP's at Schools – David raised the question whether these BMPs, already in place for the new schools, can be expanded to accommodate other adjacent sites. Janet suggested talking to David Stokes who is very involved in the school construction.
5. Question – will we be looking at a utility fee down the road ? DPW needs to compile a list of upcoming capital projects, burdens and costs in order to justify it, if it is indeed needed. And potential sources of grants to offset fees.
6. Janet has expressed the desire to step down from being the chair of the committee. Too many other pressing commitments at this time. Since the chair must be a resident member, we can wait until November to elect a new chair.

F. Next Meeting: Proposed for November 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Buck, Chair.