
Appendix C
Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes

Town of Canton, CT
Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee
Regular Meeting
April 26, 2011

Meeting Minutes

The Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee held a Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM at the Canton Library/Community Center in Room E located at 40 Dyer Avenue in Canton, Connecticut.

1. Appointments

None were made. The committee may appoint a chairperson at a later date, if necessary.

2. Call to Order

The meeting began at approximately 6:05 PM. A general discussion occurred. During this time, Mr. Sinish explained that an aerial photograph from 1833 is available to view and photograph. This photograph may be useful for describing how sediment deposits have changed.

3. Roll Call

Attendance:

- Jeff Shea, Town of Canton
- David Sinish, Inland Wetlands Commission
- Anne Raftery, Economic Development Commission
- Jim Davis, Conservation Commission
- Todd Jacobs, Parks and Recreation Commission
- Jeanine Gouin, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
- David Murphy, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

William Spatcher of the Open Space Preservation and Acquisition Committee was absent.

The committee discussed its role. They intend to be a sounding board for this project.

4. Public Forum

Members of the public were not present. The committee discussed how public comments would be addressed during future meetings. If members of the public attend these meetings, each will be limited to five minutes.

5. Review and approval of minutes

Not yet applicable.

6. Review, discussion, and such other matters as may pertain to the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Project

- a. Scope of Services – Mr. Murphy and Ms. Gouin presented the scope of services. And open discussion format allowed committee members to ask questions and comment.

Topics included:

- ❑ Study Area – Will include the Upper Mill Pond and areas within 500 feet of the edge of water. Tangential properties and parcels will be included if they add value to the master plan and make sense to include.
- ❑ Public participation – Public input will be very important to this project. Public meetings will be held in mid-June and early October 2011. There has been an increase in coverage of the Town of Canton in the Courant, which may be related to increased reporting overall. The Canton Patch is a good online newspaper that could help spread the word about this project. A community festival/gathering in early September could be helpful for outreach, although it is recognized that this will be late in the project schedule. Ms. Raftery maintains a list of contact information for five news publications, and will provide the contact information to the group. Mr. Sinish remarked that if a brief press release could be completed before the weekend of April 30-May 1, he could distribute information during the Collinsville Canoe and Kayak event.
- ❑ Sediment contamination – If the sediment has very poor quality (contaminated), then disposal is limited to licensed facilities. If the quality is very good, disposal options are flexible. The challenge could be a mixed quality sediment; in this case, DEP approval for "reuse" may be needed.
- ❑ Oral history – Ms. Claire Cote with the Town of Canton may be completing a project that will provide an oral history of the river and the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond. The committee discussed how this could occur and be recorded.
- ❑ Coordination with other organizations – Mr. Sinish is a member of the FRWA and FRCC. He reminded the committee that the FRCC does not cover the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond, as it is not within the current Wild & Scenic section.
- ❑ Mailing to abutters – The mailing to the abutters will occur prior to the June 2011 public meeting, and will provide the following information: a brief description of the project, the date of the public meeting, and information about how to take the recreational survey via Survey Monkey.
- ❑ Relationship to other projects – The committee inquired about how this project is related to the Collinsville Hydroelectric Pre-Feasibility Study and the redevelopment

of the Collins Company buildings. Although the recommendations that a generated from the hydroelectric study should be considered as part this project, and vice versa, neither of these project should be dependent on the other or require that the others be completed. A realtor (Mr. Julius Fialkiewicz) can provide information about redevelopment of the Collins Company buildings.

- b. Schedule – The schedule was briefly discussed. May and June 2011 will be busy months, with the bathymetric survey, wetland/wildlife reconnaissance, and the public meeting and the tasks that are related to them.
- c. Status of Data Collection – Substantial information has been derived from existing reports, publications, and studies. Field data collection is beginning in the month of May 2011.
- d. Existing Conditions Report – An existing conditions report was distributed. The report contains mainly information that was derived from existing reports, publications, and studies.
- e. Recreational Survey – A three-page draft recreational survey was completed for this meeting. The members of the committee will review the draft and provide written or emailed comments, although a few initial suggestions were provided during the meeting (for example, changing "non-motorized boating" to "other boating," and adding photography/painting to the activity list). Two examples of recreational surveys were also provided. The first example was used recently by CCSU in relation to ongoing studies toward the possible designation of the lower Farmington River as a wild and scenic section. The second was a standard DEP recreational survey. Questions about socioeconomics were not included in the draft survey completed for this project, as they will not provide useful information. The purpose of the survey is not to build a database and conduct a detailed study with the results; rather, the results should help guide the master plan.

7. Set Meeting Dates

Mr. Shea will coordinate the next Steering Committee meeting date (June 7, 8, or 9) and the first public meeting (June 14, 15, or 16).

8. Chairman's report

Not yet applicable.

9. Staff report

Not yet applicable.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.

Town of Canton, CT
Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee
Regular Meeting
June 7, 2011

Meeting Minutes

The Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee held a Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM at the Canton Library/Community Center in Room E located at 40 Dyer Avenue in Canton, Connecticut.

1. Appointments

None were made.

2. Call to Order

The meeting began at approximately 6:10 PM.

3. Roll Call

Attendance:

- Jeff Shea, Town of Canton
- David Sinish, Inland Wetlands Commission
- Anne Raftery, Economic Development Commission
- Bill Spatcher, Open Space and Preservation & Acquisition Commission
- Matt Stone, Hydropower Committee (guest)
- David Murphy, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

4. Review and Approve of Minutes

The meeting minutes from April 26, 2011 were reviewed. One correction was made: the graphic described by David Sinish at the meeting is not an aerial photograph. However, a quorum was not present at the time of the review, and a vote was not taken.

5. Review, discussion, and such other matters as may pertain to the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Project

- a. Soil Scientist Report and Wetland Mapping – Mr. Murphy described the “wetland delineation and ecological evaluation” report and map.
- b. Recreational Survey Responses Collected to Date – A total of 67 written responses (comments) were available as of the date of the meeting. Six of them were deemed not applicable to the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond study area. The group briefly reviewed

the comments. Seven main types of methods were recommended by respondents for keeping informed: email, news media, the town's web site, the postal service, facebook, newsletters, and text messaging.

The recreational survey discussion spurred a general discussion about public access. Collinsville Canoe and Kayak reportedly encourages people to use the parking lot after business hours. The property owner is displeased with people swimming to the bridge abutments and climbing/diving off the abutments. Collinsville Canoe and Kayak does not allow people to paddle downstream of the abutments. Mr. Stone explained that liability is a very important concern for activities that occur *on* and *from* various parts of the shoreline. Everyone concurred that land ownership is an important issue to clarify. There will likely be questions at the public meeting about who owns the boat launch – the Town, DEEP, or the owner of the property at Collinsville Canoe and Kayak.

- c. Bathymetric Survey and Mapping – Mr. Murphy presented a large map of the bathymetry and explained that further refinements were necessary. Major areas of similar depths were marked up on the map and a discussion of water depths ensued. Mr. Sinish explained that studies have shown that a depth of less than eight feet can cause friction/drag to a boat, kayak, or canoe. But a depth of five feet may be acceptable to most users.
- d. Proposed Sediment Sampling – The proposed sediment sampling program was reviewed. Ten borings are proposed in areas where sediment characterization was believed to be most important. In order to keep the master plan project moving forward, the plan will be submitted to DEEP within a few days.
- e. Inland Wetland Commission Approval – Additional information may be necessary to facilitate the review of the sediment sampling/boring application.
- f. Public Involvement Process – Public involvement is very important and continues to improve. Many people have taken the survey, and attendance at the public meeting on June 16, 2011 is anticipated to be high. The survey will remain open until the end of June.
- g. Schedule – The schedule was reviewed. Major changes have not occurred.
- h. Web Site – Mr. Murphy and Mr. Shea will develop a list of maps and documents that should be posted to the project web site.
- i. Proposed Power Point Presentation for June 16 public meeting – The power point presentation was reviewed. Comments included the following: double-check wording of the DEEP contract for the second slide; improve visibility of the map; use “enhance the following values” instead of “restore the following values” on the fourth slide; on the “Objectives” slide, add “identification of possible land and river issues and opportunities” instead of the last bullet; add a slide that explains possible products of the master plan;

modify, add, and delete some of the pictures; and add clarifications on the slide about the project web sites; add a slide explaining who to contact.

With Mr. Stone present, the group discussed the connection of this study to the hydropower study. It was agreed that the two are complementary, and not in conflict. For example, both studies will be looking at the three-foot flashboards. Mr. Sinish explained that the flashboards were still being installed as of eight years ago, and he explained the events that occurred that lead to the end of the flashboard installation each spring.

6. Set Meeting Dates

Mr. Shea will coordinate the next Steering Committee meeting date. The tentative date is August 16, 2011. The public meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2011.

7. Chairman's report

Not applicable.

8. Staff report

Not applicable.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.

Town of Canton, CT
Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee
Regular Meeting
August 30, 2011

Meeting Minutes

The Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee held a Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM at the Canton Library/Community Center in Room E located at 40 Dyer Avenue in Canton, Connecticut.

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at approximately 6:05 PM.

2. Roll Call

Attendance:

- Jeff Shea, Town of Canton
- David Sinish, Inland Wetlands Commission
- Anne Raftery, Economic Development Commission
- Todd Jacobs, Parks and Recreation Commission
- Jim Davis, Conservation Commission
- David Murphy, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

Committee member Bill Spatcher was not present.

Guests who signed the attendance sheet:

- John Fitts, reporter, 15 Colony Road
- David Leff, 4 The Green
- Steve Roberto, Selectman, 1 Tanglewood Drive
- Kent McCoy, 6 Center Street
- Dave Gilchrist, 54 Lawton Road
- Kevin Jackson, 86 Atwater Road
- Kathy Munroe, 17 Town Bridge Road
- Dale Munroe, 17 Town Bridge Road

3. Public Comment

Selectman Steve Roberto believes that public access to the river is needed and is achievable. The Rotary Club may be positioned to donate up to \$40,000 to assist in this endeavor. It would be good to have some parking at the new gazebo, although the curb cut would require State approval.

4. Review and Approve of Minutes

The meeting minutes from June 7, 2011 and June 16, 2011 were reviewed. One correction was made to the June 7 meeting minutes: the sentence “Although the property owner is displeased with people swimming to the bridge abutments and climbing/diving off the abutments, Mr. Sinish believes that they are a great resource” was changed to “The property owner is displeased with people swimming to the bridge abutments and climbing/diving off the abutments.” Both sets of meeting minutes were then approved. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2011 and the June 16, 2011 minutes and seconded. The motion was approved 4-0.

5. Review, discussion, and such other matters as may pertain to the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Project

David Sinish reported that the banks and walls along the impoundment appear to be intact as a result of the recent significant rain events, although vegetation has been flattened or bent. The largest of the three sandy islands near the boardwalk appears to have changed shape due to the high flows from T.S. Irene, and it is possible that bathymetry has changed as well.

6. Review Committee Charge from the Board of Selectmen

Jeff Shea read the resolution that established the steering committee for the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan.

7. Review Results of Public Survey

David Murphy presented a synopsis of the survey results (refer to attached memo) and reminded those in attendance that the full results from Survey Monkey are available on the project web site. Many of the comments were related to public access, with respondents split between those favoring maintaining the status quo, discouraging more visitors, or increasing usage. Less than 20 people specifically mentioned water depths. For the sake of drawing meaningful conclusions from the survey, the seven respondents in favor of dredging and the eight respondents in favor of raising the water level could probably be interpreted as a total of 15 people who are generally in favor of increasing water depths.

David Sinish raised a point about the comments pertaining to “dredging.” This term means different things to different people. David Murphy noted that the survey did not prompt for a response or comments about dredging, thus making it more difficult to interpret what respondents could be stating or implying. Some people could be thinking in terms of a wide area of sediment removal, and some could be thinking of just a few selected locations such as sandbars.

A short discussion ensued about increasing the water surface elevation with flashboards. Some in attendance believe that the fixed costs for increasing the water surface would be more beneficial for the Town instead of the repeated cost of dredging. David Leff explained that flashboards would have engineering and construction costs as well as annual costs such as retaining a professional to install them and maintain them. David Sinish indicated that

new designs could accommodate flooding. The Hydropower Study evaluated gate-type boards that can be raised and bladder-type dams that can be inflated. As the owner of the dam and the agency that permits work on dams, The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) would have significant influence in this matter.

8. Existing Conditions Mapping (Bathymetry, Depths, and Public Access)

David Murphy presented the large maps of the bathymetry, water depths, and possible shoreline with the water surface raised three feet.

The map of existing public access was presented next. Highlights included Town Bridge Road, the beaches upstream and downstream of the Town Bridge Road bridge abutments, Flaherty's rock, the big island, the Town Garage parking area and small beach, the trail, the new gazebo, the small triangular park along the trail that is adjacent to the boat launch, Collinsville Canoe and Kayak, the areas around the dam and the Route 179 bridge, the small canoe dock along lower Collins Road, and the two pedestrian access points on the church-owned land. David Leff explained that ice skating occurs along lower Collins Road, and that raising the water level would benefit skating and boating in this particular area. Occasionally, residents have added water to the surface of the ice to make it smoother. One point of access was missed: the bridge of Rattlesnake Brook was designed to provide ADA-compliant fishing access.

9. Public Access Relative to Land Ownership

David Murphy provided his findings relative to land ownership while stressing that interpretation of deeds, easements, and legal documents is not an area of expertise for Milone & MacBroom, Inc. An additional caveat is that the parcel mapping available from the Town is not yet in digital format, and the parcel data from the State is relatively generalized.

Town Bridge Road is town-owned and the right-of-way may be sufficiently wide to accommodate the parking that takes place. The beaches upstream and downstream of the Town Bridge Road bridge abutments may be partly on State land (the portions riverward of the high water mark) and partly on private property. Flaherty's rock appears to be partly on the nursery's land and partly on the MDC land (both are long strips of property). The big island is State land.

The Town Garage parking area and the small beach are on Town-owned land and State-owned land, respectively. The Farmington River Trail along the study area follows the old railroad easement. The new gazebo is on the Town land.

The boat launch, the small triangular park along the trail that is adjacent to the boat launch, the Collinsville Canoe and Kayak store, and the adjacent shops appear to be all on private property. However, a sliver of land to the west of the shops appears to be State-owned. This needs to be investigated further.

The areas immediately around the dam and the Route 179 bridge are State-owned. The small canoe dock along lower Collins Road above the high water mark is essentially public land, as

it lies on the boundary between a town road and the impoundment. The two pedestrian access points on the west side of the impoundment are on church-owned land.

A discussion ensued regarding the ownership of the old railroad right of way on the west side of the impoundment. David Murphy noted that the assessor mapping shows that private property ownership extends across the line to the edge of water. Several in attendance believe that the railroad right of way could have reverted to the adjacent private property owners.

David Murphy remarked that in his experience (and the firm's experience) with public access and master plans, the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond stands out as an area that "works" even with so much access occurring on land that may not be publicly-owned. This is a very positive attribute of the area.

10. Status of Sediment Sampling Plan

The Canton Inland Wetland Agency approved the drilling and sampling in July, and CT DEEP provided its comments on August 26, 2011. David Murphy explained that DEEP has emphasized characterization of sediment that would remain in place due to benthic organism concerns, whereas the Town needs to understand the quality of the sediment that might be removed. In order to satisfy both concerns within the budgetary constraints, ten locations could still be drilled and samples collected. However, only eight samples would be submitted for disposal quality characterization and eight samples would be submitted for benthic quality characterization. Sampling is scheduled for September 6 and 7, 2011. David Murphy believes that flows have already decreased to the point that the drill rig on the raft will be able to operate without trouble next week.

11. Related Studies and Efforts

- a. Town Bridge Road Bridge – When the bridge replacement/repair project occurs, large laydown areas may be needed. This could potentially provide an opportunity to secure land through easements or acquisitions that could later be converted to public access.
- b. Hydropower Study – The master plan will need to provide viable options for scenarios that include or do not include hydropower generation. It is understood that FERC licensing would require fish passage. David Leff posed a question regarding whether DEEP could require fish passage if the water surface elevation is raised in the absence of the hydropower project. David Murphy indicated that it could be strongly encouraged although it would be impossible to know if fish passage would be a condition of the approvals. The committee recalls that fish passage would be very expensive, on the order of seven figures for the ladder.
- c. Pedestrian Study – The traffic calming and pedestrian safety recommendations will need to mesh with the master plan. It was noted that Route 179 is a State scenic highway, which could have some implications to the master plan.

12. Site Constraints and Opportunities

David Murphy presented an informal list of opportunities for discussion. These included organization of parking along Town Bridge Road, either in connection with the bridge project or not; potential opportunities to provide additional access if the Town Garage is relocated, creating a boat ramp and beach area with ADA accessibility; developing more or a gathering place for programming near the gazebo; creating a small beach along the edge of water in the triangular park east of the existing boat ramp; improving signage throughout the area; and gaining access to the possible State-owned land west of the canoe store (toward the dam) for non-swimming/non-boating access such as fishing.

Sediment removal could be constrained to target areas to achieve specific goals, instead of wide areas of dredging. In some areas, depths may already be appropriate. For example, there is a good diversity of depths already adjacent to the Town Garage site, which could potentially accommodate a beach, boat launch, and fishing (activities that may require different depths) without dredging.

There was some concern from the committee that the possible State-owned land west of the canoe store might not support fishing. David Murphy will look into this further. A proposal for artificial reefs as part of the plan is being evaluated by the fisheries subconsultant and could help enhance this area.

David Sinish requested that Milone & MacBroom, Inc. review State statutes and regulations regarding motorized boats, as it may head off any debate that could occur. Things to consider include speeds and required depths. Kathy Munroe wondered if emissions standards or requirements could also play a role.

13. Public Meeting Schedule

A public meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 12, 2011.

14. Project Schedule

Most of the remaining analysis will occur immediately after the sediment sampling.

15. Next Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for September 27, 2011.

16. Staff Report

Not applicable.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 PM.

UPPER COLLINSVILLE MILL POND MASTER PLAN RECREATIONAL/USERS' SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

Standard Questions

Most respondents travel less than five miles to the impoundment, and most drive cars although many bike or walk there. Walking and biking are by far the most common land-based activities for people who visit the impoundment, whereas kayaking was the most common water-based activity.

Existing parking and trails were the most commonly reported needs that were being met. However, these two things (plus a public boat launch) were also reported as “most important to develop.”

A perception of poor water quality appears to be the most common reported problem. However lack of access, poor access points, and lack of restrooms were the next-highest cited problems.

Additional Comments Section

Some respondents (approximately ten) are concerned that too many people are using the resource and that improvements would invite more people. An equal number of people enjoy the area in its current state and do not believe that any “improvements” are necessary. These are valid concerns and should be considered for the master plan. If enhancements or changes are recommended, they should not be so severe that usage of the impoundment increases drastically and leads to any abuses of resources.

Approximately half of the written comments provided specific recommendations regarding public access to the impoundment. Some of the recommendations that may be appropriate for Collinsville include:

- Provide pet waste disposal areas
- Maintain/keep up with the existing trash barrels
- Beautify the area around the WPCF (vegetation, vines, screening)
- Extend the bikeway along the water's edge (behind the canoe store)
- Provide better parking on the east side of the impoundment
- Provide more benches, picnic tables near the river
- Hold events by the river, such as seasonal programming
- Town should own some of the access
- Enhance the view of the river from the east shore by cutting vegetation
- Maintain native vegetation
- Provide a town-owned boat launch
- Provide a boat launch near the town garage
- Provide a beach for swimming
- Provide access that is not steep

- Any of the above, but without more paving
- Add signs that depict access points and businesses
- Work out swimming/fishing conflicts
- Improve ways to safely walk or bike to the area

Some ambitious recommendations included:

- Provide pedestrian access along the west side
- Move the town garage and yard
- Improve access to Flaherty's Rock
- Smooth the trails so inline skating is easier
- Build a band shell
- Build a bridge or trail on the old railroad abutments
- Dog park

Some recommendations are probably not appropriate:

- Add public restrooms
- Add water fountains
- Make electricity available

Responses about motorized boats, dredging, and raising the level were tallied:

Should motorized boats be allowed?

No = 13

Yes = 1

Should the impoundment be dredged?

No = 2

Yes = 7

Should the level of the impoundment be raised?

No = 1

Yes = 8

Because the “dredging” and “raising” options were not presented as an “either/or,” it is not possible to determine if someone’s comment would have changed if either was discounted. However, the number of people who recommended dredging (7) was roughly the same as the number of people who recommended raising the level (8). It may be appropriate to assume that the 15 respondents are sending a message that increased depth is desired, one way or another.

Summary

Two respondents probably encapsulated the themes best when they said:

- ❑ *“I’m all for improving the recreational use of the river to regain what we lost when the state discontinued the use of the flashboards, but I’m opposed to disturbing the quiet natural nature of the river.”*
- ❑ *“We love the natural resources in C-ville and support any thoughtful enhancement of access that would respect the natural beauty and history of the area providing a variety of opportunities to different segments of the population.”*

Town of Canton, CT
Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee
Regular Meeting
October 4, 2011

Meeting Minutes

The Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Steering Committee held a Regular Meeting at 6:00 PM at the Canton Library/Community Center in Room F located at 40 Dyer Avenue in Canton, Connecticut.

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at approximately 6:05 PM.

2. Roll Call

Attendance:

- Jeff Shea, Town of Canton
- David Sinish, Inland Wetlands Commission
- Jim Davis, Conservation Commission
- Todd Jacobs, Parks and Recreation Commission
- Anne Raftery
- David Murphy, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
- Jason Williams, Milone & MacBroom, Inc.

Bill Spatcher was not present. Several guests were in attendance including the First Selectman and a reporter from the Canton Patch.

3. Public Comments

Public comments were not received at this time during the meeting.

4. Review and Approve of Minutes

The meeting minutes from August 30, 2011 were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 30 minutes and seconded. The motion was approved 4-0.

5. Sediment Sampling

David Murphy described the sediment sampling program utilizing a power point presentation. Locations, depths, and findings were described. Despite some detections of metals and PAHs, the sediment would likely be considered clean. It was not characteristic of

a hazardous waste. The potential for DEEP authorization for “beneficial reuse” of the sediment appeared to be favorable.

The First Selectman inquired if there would be some value of the sediment that could offset the cost of removing it. While this did not seem likely, David Murphy would look into the question.

6. Sediment Removal Alternatives

David Murphy described potential sediment removal schemes utilizing a power point presentation. Alternatives include the null alternative (no removal), a “maximum dredge” alternative where all areas that are less than five feet deep would be excavated to five feet depth, an alternative where the middle portion of the impoundment near the sandbars would be deepened, and an alternative where an upstream area near the Town Garage would be deepened to create deeper passage to the more distant upstream areas. Questions from the committee included clarifications about potential depths, widths, and final channel bathymetry. There was some concern that a new bathymetry that was too uniform would be detrimental to fish and wildlife.

Jeff Shea inquired why dredging would not be proposed downstream of the old abutments. David Murphy explained dredging there was not warranted due to the lack of swimming, kayaking, and canoeing in this area.

7. Draft Master Plan

Jason Williams presented the draft master plan graphic. Potential recommendations were discussed.

8. Review and Discuss Other Such Matters that May Pertain to the Upper Collinsville Mill Pond Master Plan Project

Jeff Shea asked for clarification about which items from the public survey were not on the master plan. A good example is the restroom issue. Several members of the public described a need for restrooms. The committee generally agreed that this issue needed some further consideration. The First Selectman indicated that the old railroad station building at Dyer Avenue could be moved and retrofitted to become a restroom facility. Water-less port-o-lets are another option.

The First Selectman raised the issue of the upcoming phosphorus requirements that are expected to cause upgrades to water pollution control facilities across the state. He posed the question that it may be less expensive to rebuild the plant elsewhere rather than retrofit the existing plant. That would lead to an opportunity to re-use the site.

A question was asked regarding who owns the small piece of land east of the existing board ramp. David Murphy said this land was owned by the same entity that owns the canoe store land. However, much of the small piece of land is taken up by the trail easement.

One member of the public raised an issue regarding the sandbars surrounding the islands near the River Road/Bridge Street intersection. People in Canton perceive that this is one of the most changed areas of the impoundment, with excessive sediment and poor depths, despite the fact that islands have always been present in the bend. David Murphy stated that another dredging alternative would be added that includes additional sediment removal in this area.

David Sinish inquired whether parking spaces would be depicted in the Town Garage area on the next iteration of the master plan. If so, the spaces must be sufficiently small such that trailers could not be accommodated. The impoundment must continue to host car-top boats such as canoes and kayaks, rather than trailer-mounted watercraft. The committee generally concurred. David Sinish also commented that “headway speed” should be checked in the State’s regulations and statutes because wakes are controlled via the regulation of headway speed. David Murphy explained that all of the related statutes and regulations were checked, but would be reviewed again.

The committee had a discussion about the recommendations involving the old bridge abutments. Initial opinion was that a walkway could lead to more diving and swimming, but an alternate outcome could be a reduction in swimming/diving activity due to the increased visibility and presence of pedestrians in close proximity to those would be swimming and diving without authorization.

9. Discuss Date and Presentation Requirements for Public Meeting

Choices for the public meeting are October 20 and October 27, 2011. The master plan maps and report will need to be posted to the project web site a week before the public meeting. Ultimately, October 27, 2011 was selected for the public meeting. A press release will need to be prepared ahead of time.

A few outstanding items to work out include additional graphics for the master plan, and planning-level cost estimates that are needed in the master plan. The cost estimates will be in the report. In addition to a map of the water surface raised three feet, it might be helpful to have a cross section of the impoundment with the water surface raised three feet.

10. Review Project Schedule

The public meeting will be on October 27, 2011.

11. Staff report

Not applicable.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 PM.