

MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2020 REHOBOTH WATER COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Rehoboth Water Commission was held at Dunkin Donuts, 227 Winthrop St. and called to order at 7:08p.m.

ATTENDEES

Members: Joseph Nunes, Edwin Ballard, Patricia Vadnais, Thomas Nicholson and Katie Eyer

GUEST

Bill Napolitano

MINUTES

Motion: Tish Vadnais made a motion to table the minutes of January 9, 2020

Motion 2nd: Katie Eyer

2019 HIGHLIGHTS FOR TOWN MEETING

Collaboration with Planning Board to establish and update Groundwater Protection District bylaw

Working with Health Agent Karl Drown to establish hydrofracking rules and procedures

Engaged with the IT manager to implement a process designed to identify and locate wells in town.

BYLAWS

Rewriting the bylaw will afford equal protection to all citizens of Rehoboth.

Joe Nunes – spoke to Daniel Roach about obtaining a copy of the bylaws for review. He will pass them on when they are ready.

WATER SUPPLY SIGNS – SCOUT LETTER

The Eagle Scout project was to identify and mark water holes for mutual aid, but the signs aren't clear.

Ted Ballard withdraws previous motion to write a letter. Tish Vadnais 2nd.

The signs need to have "RFD" added to them.

Tish Vadnais will speak to Bill Dalpe about this addition.

BILL NAPOLITANO - MAPS

Ted Ballard – point of order – the project was initiated by Jack Hermance. Once the GWPD expansion passes, the old map is obsolete.

Bill Napolitano – the current bylaw will be expanded to afford the same protection to everyone, Palmer River watershed or any other watershed. Everyone is protected in the same way, regardless of where in town they are. All groundwater is protected equally.

SHAD FACTORY DAM

Ted Ballard – The selectmen oppose taking the dam for the town because of the cost. The Water Commission is responsible for public water and supplying it. Ted believes that the dam should be kept to provide drinking water in the future. The Water Commission needs to consult with an attorney.

Joe Nunes – Do we know how much water is in the reservoir? Bill Napolitano says not unless there is a feasibility study. There is a dam and seawall repair and removal program that gives grants to repair/retain dams.

Ted Ballard – wants a clear statement of the responsibilities of the Water Commission.

Joe Nunes – his understanding is that the dam won't be removed for years if they decide to remove it.

Bill Napolitano - will look into it.

Joe Nunes – will call Gerry Schwall and ask as well.

Next meeting: March 24, 2020 7:00p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Tish Vadnais will speak to Bill Dalpe about adding RFD to Water Supply signs.

Joe Nunes will call Gerry Schwall and ask about the Shad Factory Dam.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion made by Tish Vadnais to adjourn at 8:58p.m.

Motion 2nd: Joe Nunes

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Eyer Rehoboth Water Commissioner Clerk