

Minutes, Inaugural Meeting of the Kampoosa Bog Stewardship Committee  
Monday, September 19, 2022, 5 p.m.

Present: Laura Beasley, Lisa Bozzuto, Rich Bradway, Arthur Dutil, Louise Gachet, Patrick White, ex-officio

Absent: John Hart

## **1. History and status review**

Discussion:

This was the first meeting of the committee, which is being brought back some 10 years or so after the previous committee was disbanded. Member Arthur Dutil is the only member from the previous committee to be a member of the new committee. The previous committee included members of many organizations, not just residents of Stockbridge.

## **2. Objectives and tasks**

*Stakeholder identification and outreach*

Discussion:

Identification of stakeholders began with list of stakeholders identified in the Resource Management Plan of 1999:

- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- Marian Fathers
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management ACEC Program
- Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Massachusetts Highway Department
- Massachusetts Historical Commission
- Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
- Massachusetts Turnpike Authority
- The Nature Conservancy
- Stockbridge and Lee Conservation Commissions
- Stockbridge and Lee Land Trusts
- Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company [unsure of current company name]
- Kampoosa Stewardship Committee

The list of possible stakeholders was further expanded to include:

- citizens of Stockbridge and Lee,

- interested or affected landowners (landowners within the ACEC, abutters, landowners downstream of the ACEC): by way of shorthand, this group was identified as "expanded list of abutters"

- The New England Wildflower Society
- Berkshire Natural Resources Council
- The Trustees of Reservations
- The Stockbridge–Munsee community.

The idea was put forward to send a letter to previous members of the Kampoosa Stewardship Committee, reintroducing the project. A different letter might also be sent to the expanded list of abutters. The question arose how to limit the expanded list of abutters. Interest was expressed in communicating with organizations previously allied with the committee that might have documents of interest. Alert representatives of those organizations that the committee is being revived and asking about their interest in being involved. Stakeholder identification and outreach will likely become a standing item on the committee's agenda.

### *Hydrological study*

Discussion:

Patrick White identified a current bid that opened on 5/7/22 for a Kampoosa Bog water quality and vegetative composition review and analysis study by NHESP. Multiple recent studies or parts of studies have been funded. This is an item that the committee will keep an eye on and return to in the future.

### *Records collection and review*

Discussion:

The committee does not have a comprehensive record of either the previous committee's work, including minutes of meetings, or the history of work done in the ACEC. Sources of documents of interest to the committee may include the Stockbridge Library and Museum or Historical Commission archives, the Stockbridge and Lee Conservation Commissions, filing cabinets in Town Hall (Land Trust records, for example), the Massachusetts Historical Commission (re: archaeology, remains of buildings or mills) and records kept by various entities formerly part of the previous committee or organizations that continue to work and study in the ACEC. As the committee communicates with more people about the work of the committee, the committee will learn about other records. The question arose about where to put records that the committee collects. The committee has been allocated a digital folder, per Michael Canales, Town Administrator, location to be made known in the future. Interest expressed in requesting data-sharing agreements to gain access to electronic records at NHESP.

### *Endangered species catalog*

Discussion: This item was discussed along the way in conversation about records collection and review.

### *Communications and community outreach*

Discussion:

This item was discussed along the way in conversation about additional interested parties and stakeholders and in discussion of a letter to be sent to the expanded list of abutters and another letter to a list of possible stakeholders. Discussion went on to include a possible site visit and what would be needed by the committee members for such a visit.

## **3. Selection of leadership**

### *Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary*

Discussion:

Identification of responsibilities of chair, vice chair, and secretary. The chair runs the meetings, makes sure the agenda gets put together, holds people accountable. The chair will recap action items at the end of each meeting. The secretary takes minutes and posts them to the Town, records votes, who makes motions. The committee can also direct people to the Zoom meeting recording.

Regarding vice chair, the committee decided to add this position later if circumstances make it necessary, such as at a time when the membership of the committee expands.

Lisa Bozzuto made a motion to nominate Laura Beasley as Chair; Arthur Dutil seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous. Laura Beasley made a motion that Louise Gachet be secretary; Lisa Bozzuto seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.

### *Working group assignments*

Discussion:

From the 1999 Resource Management Plan, it is evident that there were lots of working sub-committees, but it feels early in the development of this new committee to be making working group assignments. Keep this as an agenda item for future meetings.

#### **4. Meeting cadence**

Discussion:

Meet monthly for now, on third Monday of each month at 5 p.m. in Stockbridge Town Hall. Once working group assignments are under way, the committee could meet twice a month.

#### **5. Adjournment**

Recap: Laura Beasley provided list of action items that were identified during the course of the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Contact NHESP: Laura Beasley; also ask about endangered species catalog
- Contact Lee and Stockbridge Conservation Commissions: Lisa Bozzuto
- Contact The Nature Conservancy: Lisa Bozzuto, Louise Gachet
- Contact the New England Wildflower Society: Lisa Bozzuto
- Meet with Michael Blay to identify expanded list of abutters: Laura Beasley
- Locate map of the site that could be printed or copied and shared with all committee members: Arthur Dutil
- Draft letter to the expanded list of abutters that can be reviewed at the next committee meeting: Laura Beasley.
- Create agenda for future meetings and book the meeting room: Laura Beasley
- Post minutes to the Town after they are approved: Louise Gachet
- Contact Historical Society: Arthur Dutil
- Investigate filing cabinet for records and documents: Rich Bradway, Arthur Dutil
- Communicate with interested abutters, the Skowrons: Patrick White

Laura Beasley moved that the meeting be adjourned. Arthur Dutil seconded. VOTE: Unanimous.