

TAMWORTH PLANNING BOARD
Groundwater Protection Ordinance Committee

Minutes

December 17, 2021

9:30 AM, Town Office Building

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Sheldon Perry. Present are: Sheldon Perry, Kit Morgan, Randall Dearborn. David Little is present also. Jeremy Phillips is absent.
2. Approval of Minutes- 11/19/21 meeting. – Kit made a motion to approve, Randall seconded. APPROVED
3. Discussion of action items from our last meeting –

Kit - differences in model ordinances. One substantial change from the old to the new, is in the list of prohibited uses. There was a prohibition for hazardous waste disposal facility. This was deleted because it is preempted by State authority. There were changes in the introduction, and updated language, but nothing substantive. Many of the attachments on the State website have changed.
4. Identify allies, key players, and businesses in sensitive areas. – Randall - Not much has been done with this. Businesses with potential for contamination have previously been identified. A list of key businesses may be valuable for reaching out to. The campground may be a helpful ally. Business parks on Route 41 may be potentially hazardous. Obvious allies would include businesses that are drawing people to town: wedding venues, White Lake. Identify businesses in sensitive areas and target them.
5. Discuss outreach and implementation. – Sheldon checked with the Planning Board in Albany. Shawn Wadsworth, chair of that Board, contacted Sheldon. In Albany the GPO did not have support at the Board level, and is now a dead issue. Jay Buckley (chair of Eidelweiss Homeowners Association) has been difficult to reach. A response has not been received as yet. David Little suggested contacting Tara Schroeder at Green Mountain. Ned will not have a lot of time to help with this.

David spoke about education in the summer, and suggested awareness education at the Farmer's Market, and on the Visitors Council webpage. Raise importance of water without talking about an ordinance. Do a water taste test (Distillery?) Selling a T-shirt about the Tamworth aquifer? Raise awareness in general terms. The Community School camp – ask her to do a program about water.

Backtrack to key players – Sheldon has a relationship with Richard Roberts and feels that getting some town officials aware of this process might be a good thing. There are some nonprofits also: Chocorua Lake Conservancy (PR, perhaps a summer program?) Are there others that can help us out? Posners? State Representatives? David feels that approaching the representative who opposed this in 2011 and having a conversation could be a good idea. This may help identify sections that could be sources of opposition ahead of time. A collaborative relationship would be beneficial. Sheldon will have a conversation with Mark. Jerry Knirk and Chris would likely be allies. David feels that the timing is off to have this become an election issue.

Outreach format – over the next three months – how to reach allies, key players. An introductory letter would be a starting point. Sheldon has a draft, but feels that it needs to be pared down a little.

- Interested in knowing more about groundwater, importance of protection, techniques in doing so
- Questions about an ordinance
- Benefit such as insurance rates, value of business or good citizen for the environment
- Would you support an ordinance
- Input to offer the subcommittee

Perhaps a general introduction letter that states we are starting this process, and would they have any input to offer.

A letter with a couple of areas we would like to explore and ask them for a follow up meeting or phone call. If the letter is sent via email, it is pretty easy to do a survey from there. If a paper letter is sent, include an email address for a response. Kit will draft a version of an intro email. Sheldon suggested a visual – picture be included. Use the aquifer map? If email addresses are not available, can we make this into a one page printed item to mail out? The Economic Development Commission or the Visitors Council should have the necessary contact information.

6. Action Items for next meeting on 1/21/22.
Use the map, develop a letter. tamplanboard@gmail.com could possibly be used as the contact. David feels that awareness should come first, before asking for input. Reference the model ordinance in the communications. Information is needed to know what to correct in the model ordinance.
A fact sheet was reviewed. What are your concerns? Commonly asked questions is already written. Inequality is a concern.
One page, introductory letter, are you interested in learning more about this process? Ask about making an email via the town - @tamworthnh.org

Recap:

Intro letter, with pics?

Town email address setup

List by category. DES – list of businesses using hazardous substances?

Kit will follow up with Tara.

List of nonprofits and contact info.

Follow up literature? Sheldon will update the document to more current for 2022.

David will check his email for GPO Summary and FAQs

7. Other Business. - none
8. Adjournment. – Sheldon made a motion to adjourn at 10:39 am, Kit seconded.
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Donaldson
Recording Secretary

Next meeting is on January 21, 2022.