



KICKOFF MEETING NOTES

This Meeting:	Capisic Brook Watershed Management Plan Stakeholder Meeting
Date/Time:	6PM – 8PM, January 28, 2010
Location:	Riverton School and Community Center Room 911, 1600 Forest Avenue

Meeting Objectives

1. Understanding of Capisic Brook Watershed Planning Project;
2. Outline opportunity for participation; and
3. Get input on what stakeholders value in the watershed.

Attendees (see attached lists

- ~ 40 total
- ~ 15-20 watershed residents
- ~ 7-10 representing non-profit/institutional (1-2 with schools)
- ~ 2 business / neighborhood associations / owners of large property

Meeting Notes

Copies of a meeting agenda, synopsis of the Project approach, and map of the watershed were provided to attendees upon arrival.

Mike Bobinsky, Director of Public Services, City of Portland, provided a Welcome and introduction to the Project, asked for a show of hands to approximate the number of attendees that lived within the watershed, were associated with non-profits or institutions, and were with businesses, neighborhood associations or owners of large property. He mentioned the meeting would address pollution and degradation of the Capisic Brook and the ways in which our daily activities affect the watershed.

Doug Roncarati, Stormwater Program Coordinator, City of Portland, spoke about the collection and use of previous data as a project basis, and encouraged collaboration between the City, its business owners and its residents.

Barry Sheff, Woodard & Curran (W&C), explained the objectives of the meeting, reviewed the meeting agenda, and gave an overview of the teams and group meetings that attendees could sign up for and participate in.

Zach Henderson, W&C, provided a PowerPoint presentation that gave an overview of the Project work plan and touched upon the following points:

- Where is the Capisic Brook Watershed? What is a Watershed?
- Why is this Project Important?
- How are WE all responsible for Water Quality?
- What is the Plan considering?
- How can YOU be involved in this process?

The floor was opened to attendees for questions and comments.

Barry Sheff, W&C Project Manager, recorded the general discussion topics, values of the watershed to the community, and the plus / deltas of the stakeholder meeting on flip charts.

Stakeholder Response to Work Plan

- Concern over exclusion of Capisic Pond from study watershed.
- Desire to enhance Capisic Pond and surrounding wildlife habitat.
- Two premier bird watching locations in the State located within the watershed.
- Interest in retention and expansion of public access.
- Respect for privacy; Brook corridor is privately owned and should be used for utility easements, not public access trails.
- Recreational resource and success story as model for other stream restoration.
- Increased public education and awareness regarding behavior changes and link to Casco Bay.
- Most resident attendees would like additional wildlife: fish, turtles, etc, while few others prefer it to be a “drainage ditch” to be used for flood control.
- The poor quality of Capisic Brook is appropriate for an urban “drainage course.”
- Need for publicly available project updates and background information.
- Lack of vegetative clearing and maintenance has contributed to flooding..
- Potential need for further data collection.
- Property values are linked to watershed and water quality.
- Education and best practices for landscapers are important.

Questions, Issues and Concerns

- Pay attention to hot spots within the watershed.
- Definition of urban impaired stream in this context
- Watershed Boundary may have some flaws.
- Is there a permanent source of streamflow?
- Does Maine make water quality standards exceedingly difficult compared to other states?
- Landscaping Professional Organizations need to be a part of the process.
- Dog walking and dog waste clean up is a challenge.
- Cityline: email systems for meetings within the City can be utilized for information distribution.
- Project website could be valuable information sharing tool.

Identify Value of Watershed to Community

- Fish and wildlife, especially bird watching
- Healthy ecosystems
- Flood control
- Property values
- Public Access (retain and expand)

- Preserve green space; serene location
- Promote BMP yardscaping
- Respect for private property
- Create a model success story
- Recreational resource
- Location of trails
- How planning and development occurs within the watershed
- Region's economic viability
- Opportunity for experiential education
- Public recognition that stormwater infrastructure has a cost.

Plus / Delta Review of Meeting

+	Delta
Time	Healthy Snacks
Location	Non-bottled Water
General Information	Information Availability – Project Website Needs
Use of Schools to Advertise/Notice	Recognize Technical Language Barriers / Acronyms

Sign-up Sheets

- Informal Site Meeting;
- Financing Plan Project Team;
- Marketing Project Team;
- Planning Policy Project Team; and
- Retrofit Project Team.

Note: The following project team sign up sheets include staff or agency personnel that previously accepted roles on the project teams prior to Public Meeting.