

BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST (BGwT)
BOARD MEETING
March 23rd, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Groundwater Trust met in the Heritage Room at the Lenox Hotel located at 710 Boylston Street, Boston, MA. The Executive Director electronically distributed the meeting notice and agenda to the City Clerk at Boston City Hall in accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Open Meeting Law.

Mr. Robert Whitney, co-chair, read the following statement:

"I, Robert Whitney, co-chair of the Boston Groundwater Trust, am calling this meeting to order at 4:16 pm. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, we are conducting this meeting on-line. To ensure public access to the deliberations of the BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST, the public may access this meeting through telephone and video conferencing. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide public comment. To do so please, "raise your hand" in the application via the Zoom meeting platform. If you are calling in and cannot use the platform, you can send your questions to staff via email at csimonelli@bgwt.org or via Twitter by tagging the Twitter handle @BOSTONGWT and using the hashtag #MAR2022MTG."

The following trustees were present at the Lenox Hotel:

Mr. Robert Whitney, Beacon Hill Civic Association
Ms. Angie Liou, Asian Community Development Corporation
Mr. Tim Mitchell, Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay

The following trustees were present virtually via the Zoom meeting platform:

Ms. Janine Commerford, Greater Boston Real Estate Board
Mr. Peter Shilland, Ellis Neighborhood Association

Also present at the Lenox Hotel was:

Mr. Christian Simonelli, Executive Director

1. City Legal Representation Update

Mr. Whitney, co-chair, and Mr. Simonelli reviewed the conversations they had with the City of Boston's legal department, and separately with Councilor Bok, regarding implementation of the ordinance recently passed by the City Council which provides for legal representation by the City for the Trust. Discussion followed. Mr. Simonelli will continue to work with the law department and report back to the Board at the next meeting. Discussion followed.

2. Adoption of January 19th, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting minutes were previously emailed to Board members for review. Discussion followed.

Ms. Liou, Trustee, moved to adopt the board meeting minutes. Mr. Mitchell, co-chair, seconded the motion.

Voted: To accept the Board Meeting minutes from January 19th, 2022.

3. Financial Report & Preliminary Budget Discussion for FY23

Mr. Whitney and Mr. Simonelli reviewed the Trust's financials. Discussion followed. Mr. Simonelli reviewed the proposed FY23 budget. Discussion followed. Mr. Simonelli will revise the draft budget and bring it back to the Trustees for a vote at the next Board meeting.

4. 2022 City-Wide Groundwater Forum Update

Mr. Simonelli reviewed a draft outline for the forum. Discussion followed. The Board decided to move the date for the groundwater forum from Wednesday June 15th to either Tuesday September 20th or Wednesday September 21st. Discussion followed. The Board provided suggestions and additional talking points for the update. Mr. Simonelli will revise the outline and begin reporting back on his progress to the Board on a monthly basis.

5. Map Upgrade Update

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the progress made with representatives from Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) on the map upgrade. He outlined the new data collection method for manual observation well readings. Discussion followed.

6. Executive Director's Report

BGwT Executive Director Mr. Christian Simonelli distributed his report. Discussion followed. Refer to the attached *Executive Director's Report March 23rd, 2022*, for a complete list of activities. Discussion followed.

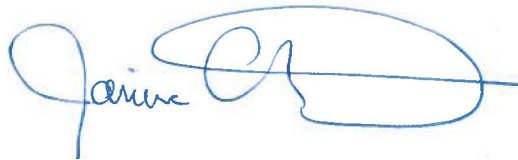
Mr. Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Liou seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: May 12th, 2022 @ 4:00 pm, at the Lenox Hotel with a virtual attendance option.

Notes submitted by Christian Simonelli, BGwT Executive Director, 3/24/2022.

Approved 28 April 2022



J. Commerford, Secretary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 17th, 2022

1. **Readings** - Completed our first set of readings of 2022. In the process of overhauling our data collection methods for all observation well readings. Expect to be up and running this week.
2. **Meetings and Calls** -
 - a. Microsoft Teams met with representatives from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) for working sessions on map upgrade. (1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/1, & 3/11)
 - b. Presented the groundwater issue to the IQHQ company, life sciences real estate development firm. (1/26)
 - c. Spoke with BluCloud representatives on relaunching of 5 remote sensing units. (1/26)
 - d. Zoomed with all members of the City-State Groundwater Working Group. (1/27) Agency updates are below.
 - e. Microsoft Teams met with the development team for 220 Huntington Avenue to review the GCOD requirements for the project. (1/28)
 - f. Virtually attended scoping session (1/31) and wrote a comment letter (2/8) for 51 Melcher Street Project located in the Fort Point Neighborhood.
 - g. Microsoft Teams met with project Engineer for 51 Melcher Street project to discuss groundwater levels in the vicinity of the site. (2/2)
 - h. Virtually attended scoping session for 415 Newbury Street Project located in the Back Bay. (2/4)
 - i. Virtually attended scoping session for Longwood Place (305 Brookline Avenue) located in the Fenway. (2/4)
 - j. Microsoft Teams met with representatives from ESRI and BWSC to discuss adding BWSC's rainfall data on the Trust website. (2/8)
 - k. Google met with Jaclyn Munson, Assistant Corporation Counsel, to discuss the City's legal representation of the Trust. (2/10)
 - l. Zoomed with development team for 415 Newbury Street to review the GCOD requirements for the project. (2/10)
 - m. Virtually attended (2/11) the 41 Berkeley Street Project (located in the South End) follow-up meeting and provided comments (3/8).
 - n. Virtually attended the public meeting for Cross Street Boutique Hotel Project in the North End. (2/16)
 - o. Microsoft Teams met with representatives from Vicinity Energy and Nitsch Engineering to discuss progress made exploring water sustainability programs that may assist with groundwater recharge area of the GCOD. (2/22)
 - p. Had a follow-up call with Jaclyn Munson, Assistant Corporation Counsel, to discuss the City's legal representation of the Trust. (2/25)
 - q. Virtually attended the public meeting for 415 Newbury Street Project in the Back Bay. (3/2)

- r. Microsoft Teams met with representatives from Vicinity Energy, Nitsch Engineering, and John Sullivan, Chief Engineer BWSC, to discuss the potential of implementing water sustainability programs that may assist with groundwater recharge in areas of the GCOD. (3/4)
 - s. Virtually attended scoping session for Fenway Corners Project located in the Fenway. (3/8)
 - t. Zoomed with Iris Tan, Marketing and Development Director at the Fenway CDC, about organizing the 2022 Groundwater Forum. (3/10)
 - u. Met with Councilor Kenzie Bok to discuss the 2022 Groundwater Forum. (3/10)
 - v. Testified via Zoom Zoning Board of Appeals hearings in January and February.
 - w. Communicated with residents, engineers, attorneys, & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to submit to meet the GCOD zoning.
3. **BluCloud Remote Monitoring Solution** - The 5 new units have been updated and redeployed. So far, so good.
 4. **BWSC** - An update on the following:
 - BWSC is in the process of designing repairs to address the spots where groundwater infiltration has been observed in the North End, Back Bay, and the South End.
 - In Lower Beacon Hill, investigations continue at Brimmer and Beacon Streets. Catch basins were cleaned and no signs of infiltration were observed.
 - Back Bay
 - The contract has been awarded and construction is set for this Spring to repair a deep CSO on Fairfield Street, in the Beacon -Back Street block.
 - At Exeter and Boylston Street, a low spot is still being investigated where seepage was observed in an adjacent manhole. Additional video investigations showed no additional signs in other infrastructure. Investigations continue.
 - Low area along Beacon St., Fairfield-Hereford St. blocks, is scheduled to be televised this Spring.
 - Repairs for the Blagden Street sewer and laterals are currently in design phase.
 - In the South End, investigations at a low spot along Harrison Avenue, in the East Concord Street – Worcester Square blocks, revealed groundwater infiltration in an adjacent manhole.
 - In the Fenway a low area along Hemenway Street was investigated and so far, has shown no signs of infiltration since most pipes in this area were lined in 2017. Some additional video still needs to be reviewed.
 5. **MBTA** - Approximately 37gpm is being injected into recharge wells in the South End Ellis Neighborhood area along Appleton, Berkeley, Saint Charles, Cazenove, and Clarendon Streets. In addition to our manual monitoring, we have 4 wells in the area with dataloggers recording a water level every 60 min.
 6. **DCR** - Storrow Drive Tunnel Pump Station, recharge galleys, and flood control pumps working without any issues. Two lockouts during heavy rain events.
 7. **MWRA** - Continue working with BWSC on sewer separation and CSO improvements in East Boston.
 8. **DOT** - Cleaning and lining of the Prudential tunnel eastbound stormwater drainage system is scheduled to occur this Spring. Plan to inspect infrastructure in the vicinity of the former 1000 Boylston St. project in the Back Bay/Fenway.