

BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST (BGwT)
BOARD MEETING
September 26th, 2017

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Groundwater Trust held its meeting in room #305 of the Boston Common Hotel & Conference Center located at 40 Trinity Place, 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. Saunders, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm. The following trustees were present:

Mr. Gary Saunders, Boston Back Bay Association
Ms. Angie Liou, Asian Community Development Corporation
Mr. John Hemenway, Beacon Hill Civic Association
Ms. Janine Commerford, Greater Boston Real Estate Board
Mr. Austin Blackmon, City of Boston, Office of Environment, Energy, & Open Space
Mr. Peter Shilland, Ellis Neighborhood Association

Also present:

Mr. Christian Simonelli, Executive Director

1. Adoption of the minutes of the July 13th, 2017 Meeting

Minutes were previously emailed to Board members for review. Discussion followed. Mr. Blackmon, Trustee, moved to adopt the minutes. Mr. Saunders co-chair, seconded the motion.

Voted: To accept the minutes of the July 13th, 2017 meeting.

2. Review of Underpinning Video Project and Authorization to Award Contract

Mr. Simonelli reviewed his recommendation and the proposed contract from Charles River Media Group for development of a short informational video that documents the work of the Boston Groundwater to maintain and improve groundwater levels in the filled land areas of Boston where buildings are supported on wood piles. The video will document an underpinning project being performed at a building where low groundwater levels resulted in rotted wood piles that de-stabilized the building.. Discussion followed. Ms. Commerford, Trustee, asked if the Trust's liability for accidents that may occur during filming has been considered. Discussion followed. Mr. Saunders recommended that the Charles River Media Group provide the Trust with insurance certificates for workman's compensation and liability, with the Trust, Trustees, and Trust employees named as additional insureds. In addition,

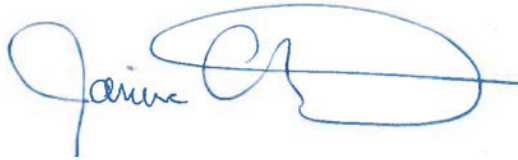
Mr. Saunders also advised Mr. Simonelli to work with Susan DaSilva from his office on obtaining additional appropriate liability documents. Discussion followed.

Mr. Saunders moved to award the contract for development of an underpinning video to Charles River Media Group not to exceed \$25,000. Ms. Liou, Trustee, seconded the motion.

Voted: To award a not-to-exceed \$25,000 contract to Charles River Media Group for development of an informational underpinning video. .

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 16th, 2017 @ 4:00 pm at the Lenox Hotel.
Notes submitted by Christian Simonelli, BGwT Executive Director, on 11/7/2017.



Approved
J. Commerford
13 November 2017

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
September 14th, 2017

1. **Readings** – We have started our sixth set of readings for 2017. I have rehired Vincent Umipig who was with the Trust last summer.
2. **Project LightWell** – We moved our 10 interactive well covers to Commonwealth Avenue in July. This week we will move the 10 well covers to the next street on our plan, Newbury Street.
3. **Meetings/Presentations** –
 - a. I met with Daniel McCormack of Blu Cloud Technology on potential remote data logging equipment that could be deployed in our wells (8/2 & 9/6).
 - b. I met with Timothy Maguire of Boston University who updated me on his groundwater silica sampling study. Mr. Maguire is using some of our wells to sample silica concentrations and determine what effect (if any) these concentrations could have on groundwater and piles. (8/2)
 - c. I spoke with Johanna Greenspan-Johnston from Environment, Energy, & Open Space about the formation of a Climate Ready Boston Infrastructure Coordination Committee with the region's major infrastructure organizations. (8/2)
 - d. I presented to the Donnelly & Co. Real Estate and updated them on our efforts and groundwater levels in the Back Bay. (8/8)
 - e. I met with Steve Garvin, President of Samiotes Consultants, Inc., to review the GCOD requirement of the proposed project at 48 Boylston Street. (8/15)
 - f. I met with David Schnerch, president of the Boston Association of Structural Engineers, to review the content of my upcoming presentation to the Association in September. (8/17)
 - g. I met with ISD Commissioner Christopher, his staff, and Sam Perry to review the abutters concerns about flooding and the proposed project at 45-53 Hereford Street. (8/21)
 - h. I met with ISD Commissioner Christopher, his staff, and the proponent of 829-833 Beacon Street project to review potential impacts of new construction on area groundwater levels. (8/28)
 - i. I wrote comment letters for the 252-264 Huntington Avenue and the Back Bay South End Gateway projects. (7/26 & 8/11)
 - j. I met with John Rahill, a rising senior from Harvard University, to discuss developing wood pile detection methods for a final design project. (8/29)
 - k. I visited 46 Wareham Street project site located in the South End to observe and document modern pile driving for a new building. (9/1)
 - l. I met with Kate England of BWSC to establish a protocol of regularly obtaining data on recharge systems installed throughout the City. (9/5)
 - m. I met with Professor James Lambrechts and Vincent Umipig of Wentworth. We reviewed an outline to begin writing a follow-up to Professor Lambrechts 1986 paper on Groundwater in the Back Bay. (9/6)
 - n. I met with City Council District 2 candidate Michael Kelly to review the efforts of our organization. (9/8)
 - o. I spoke & met with residents & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to provide us to satisfy the zoning.
4. **MBTA** - Approximately 41 gpm is being injected into recharge wells in the Ellis Neighborhood area along Appleton, Berkeley, Saint Charles, Cazenove, and Clarendon Street. In addition to our manual monitoring we have 4 wells in the area with dataloggers recording a water level every 60 min. The MBTA has confirmed that funds set aside for the ongoing recharge efforts in the South End will be made available to them through the Mass DOT FY2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan. Going forward the MBTA will research and revisit finding a long term solution for the Ellis Neighborhood area.

5. **DCR** – I have dataloggers installed in 3 wells to monitor the levels along the Storrow Drive tunnel pump station groundwater recharge system. Levels are within their usual range and the system is working as designed. The DCR and their consultants are working with the DOT on traffic studies in support of a redesign effort for the underpass. Recharge will be part of that plan and will be targeted for possible upgrade.
6. **BWSC** – An update of the following:
 - a. BWSC repairs to the sewer and drain line in Public Alley No. 430 have been completed. The remaining portion of the sewer heading towards Herford Street has also been relined. In addition, recharge was installed as part of those repairs.
 - b. BWSC has awarded the contract for repairs of the sewer along Beacon & Fairfield Street. Approximately 430' of the 72"x78" pipe will be repaired. The repairs will be made this fall and are expected to be completed before the end of the 2017 construction season.
 - c. BWSC is continuing their investigations in the South End, North End, and Stuart Street area between Berkeley and Dartmouth Streets.
7. **MWRA** - Inspected the Boston Marginal Conduit (BMC) (approx. 4,000ft.). Minor signs of infiltration at four spots were discovered during the inspection. Those four spots will be repaired. Additional inspections were conducted this in July and no new leaks were observed.
8. **MassDOT** - Repairs to 60' of the 30" reinforced concrete pipe were made this summer. So far there has been no benefit to area groundwater levels. The plan is inspect during dry weather this fall to verify that the repairs have held.
9. **Website** – Traffic remains steady on the website. The redesign is nearly complete and I expect to launch the new site this month.