

BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST (BGwT)  
BOARD MEETING  
January 17, 2013

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Groundwater Trust held its meeting in the Patriot meeting room, which is located in the Lenox Hotel. The Executive Director posted a meeting notice at City Hall in accordance with provision of the Commonwealth's Open Meeting Law. Mr. Mitchell, co-chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. The following trustees were present:

Mr. Tim Mitchell, Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB)  
Mr. Galen Gilbert, Fenway Community Development Corporation (CDC)  
Mr. Peter Sherin, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce  
Mr. Peter Shilland, Ellis Neighborhood Association  
Ms. Janine Commerford, Greater Boston Real Estate Board (GBREB)  
Ms. Stephanie Krueel, Executive Secretary Boston Conservation Commission  
Mr. Keith Williams, Mayor's Office  
Mr. Aaron Michlewitz, North End Waterfront Neighborhood Council

Also present:

Elliott Laffer, BGwT Executive Director; Christian Simonelli, BGwT Technical & Recharge Coordinator; Athena Laines, City Councilor Arroyo's Office; John Kastrinos, Haley & Aldrich

**1. Adoption of the minutes of the November 15, 2012 Meeting**

Minutes were previously electronically distributed to board members for review. Discussion followed.

Mr. Sherin, Trustee, moved to adopt the minutes Mr. Shilland, Trustee, seconded the motion.

**Voted:** To accept the minutes of the November 15, 2012 meeting.

**2. Financial Report**

In lieu of Ms. Sherden, Trustee, Mr. Laffer reviewed the BGwT Balance Sheet Detail, Income and Expense Statement, and Balance Sheet. Discussion followed.

**3. 2012 SEP-IRA Contribution**

Mr. Laffer reviewed the annual to the Trust employees SEP-IRA accounts. He noted that the budgeted amount was \$4,700 and based on the 2012 W-2's amounted 3% contribution would require \$4,619.02. Discussion followed.

Ms. Commerford, Trustee, moved to adopt the 3 % contribution. Mr. Sherin seconded the motion.

**Voted:** To approve the annual 3% contribution to the Trust employees SEP-IRA.

**4. Implementation of Investment Policy**

Mr. Laffer reviewed the current status of the implementation of the Trust's new investment policy. Discussion followed.

**5. Change in Conflict of Interest Policy**

Mr. Gilbert, Trustee reviewed suggested changes to the Trust's Conflict of Interest policy. Discussion followed. Trustees expressed some concerns over the suggested changes. Discussion followed.

Mr. Laffer suggested that it would be more productive if board members had additional time to review and comment on the changes. Discussion followed. It was decided that the Trustees will review and submit suggestions and/or questions to Mr. Laffer via email and he will forward them to Mr. Gilbert. The issue will be taken up again at a future meeting.

**6. Potential Change in One Nominating Entity**

Mr. Laffer noted that after 15 years of service Mr. Sherin, who represents the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce (GBCC) will be stepping down as a Trustee. Mr. Laffer noted that he and the cochairs had discussed the possibility that there might be an organization that might be a better fit to the Trust's work. They agreed that the Boston Preservation Alliance might bring more value to the Board.

Mr. Gilbert moved to amend the Declaration of Trust to delete Article 3, Section 3.1, Paragraph 3.1.4, which now reads : One trustee shall be appointed by the Mayor of Boston upon recommendation of the Chairman of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce; and substitute the following: One trustee shall be appointed by the Mayor of Boston upon recommendation of the President of the Boston Preservation Alliance.

Mr. Williams, trustee, seconded.

**Voted:** To amend the Declaration of Trust as described above.

**7. Review of Groundwater Levels 2012**

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the average of 2012's groundwater level readings by zone and compared them to previous years. Mr. Simonelli reviewed all 21 reading zones, indicated the number of wells and GCOD systems in each zone, and highlighted repairs made to existing infrastructure, and then reviewed how the groundwater levels had changed. Discussion followed.

**8. Executive Director's Report**

BGWT Executive Director Mr. Elliott Laffer distributed his report. Discussion followed. Refer to the attached *Executive Director's Report: January 17, 2013* for a complete list of all activities. Discussion followed.

**9. Technical & Recharge Coordinator's Report**

BGWT Technical & Recharge Coordinator Mr. Christian Simonelli reviewed his activities since last meeting. Discussion followed. Refer to the attached *Technical & Recharge Coordinator's Update BGWT Meeting: January 17, 2013* for a complete list of all activities.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING: March 21, 2013 @ 4:00 pm at the Lenox Hotel.**

Notes submitted by Christian Simonelli, BGWT Technical & Recharge Coordinator, on 1/18/13.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Galen Gilbert".

Galen Gilbert, Secretary

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**January 17, 2013**

1. **City-State Groundwater Working Group** – The Working Group will meet again next week
2. **MBTA** – The T is scheduled to present their plans for dealing with low groundwater levels in the area of the South End near Back Bay Station to the City-State Groundwater Working Group next week. They plan to have a public meeting in the near future to explain it to a wider audience.
3. **BWSC** – BWSC is completing repairs to manholes on Dartmouth Street this week. They just finished repairing what turned out to be a substantial leak at the corner of Fairfield and Beacon Streets. We will be looking for an increase in groundwater levels along Dartmouth Street when we next download the information from our data loggers next week.
4. **MassDOT** – MassDOT has identified several additional leaks in the Turnpike drain line and is working on plans for repairs.
5. **GCOD** – Compliance with GCOD continues to be excellent, thanks to the efforts of ISD, BWSC, the BRA, and the Board of Appeals. There have now been 165 recharge systems installed and inspected to meet GCOD standards. We continue to work with project proponents to help them develop the most cost effective ways to meet GCOD requirements.
6. **Green Alley** – The City and the Charles River Watershed Association have received a grant from the State for a Green Alley project, currently planned for the South End. We are a part of the team and will be installing some additional observation wells and providing monitoring services.
7. **Website** – Traffic to our website remains solid, and I continue to get compliments on the information on the site.
8. **Meetings** – We had a kickoff meeting on the Green Alley project. Christian and I also met with a consultant for Veolia Energy about a potential plan for using condensate from their steam systems for recharge. I also attended a scoping session for a project 327-337 Summer St and 319 A St.
9. **Comment Letters** – I filed comments on the 327-337 Summer St/319 A St project. As always, they are posted on our website.

# **TECHNICAL & RECHARGE COORDINATOR'S UPDATE**

## **BGwT Meeting: January 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2013**

### **TECHNICAL COORDINATOR DUTIES**

#### **WELL MONITORING**

We started a new set of readings on Friday January 4<sup>th</sup> and should be wrapping this set up by the middle of February.

I coordinated with Matthew Gagnon of Lee Kennedy Construction to reimburse the Trust for a well destroyed in front of 368 Congress Street.

### **RECHARGE COORDINATOR DUTIES**

#### **SITE VISITS**

- Visited with Daniel Nuzzo of 94 Commercial Street in the North End to discuss the groundwater levels, piling cutoffs, and recharge options.
- Visited with Jack Gregg of 330 Dartmouth Street in the Back Bay to discuss the groundwater levels, piling cutoffs, and recharge options.
- Visited with Tim Mackie of 230 Commonwealth Avenue in the Back Bay to discuss the groundwater levels, piling cutoffs, and recharge options.

#### **MEETINGS**

- Elliott & I met with members of Public Works, the Charles River Watershed Association, and Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. on the project for a Green Alley installation in a South End Alley.
- Elliott & I met with Christopher Walton of Capaccio Environmental Engineering on the possibility of using the BPL's steam condensation effluent for Recharge at the BPL.
- Elliott & I met with Michael Patrick developer for 245 Sumner Street in East Boston to discuss groundwater levels, piling cutoffs, and recharge options.
- Continued to look at potential configurations to capture runoff from sidewalks before it hits the street.
- Spoke with residents about the installation of different types of recharge systems that can be installed.
- Continued to write comment letter drafts on past projects and review them with Elliott.

## DATA LOGGER LOCATIONS

### Ellis Neighborhood (4)

- 1 at the corner of Berkley & Chandler St.
- 1 on Saint Charles St.
- 2 on Cazenove St.

### South End (4)

- 1 at 35 Milford St.
- 1 at 17 Bond St.
- 1 at 88 Waltham St.
- 1 at 27 Union Park

### Dartmouth Street (8)

- 8 from Beacon St. – Commonwealth Ave.

### Bay Village (4)

- 3 on Cortes St.
- 1 on Marginal Road from Arlington – Fayette St.

### Exeter Street (3)

- 3 from the Lenox Hotel - Copley Square Hotel

### Fairfield Street (4)

- 4 from Beacon – Marlborough St.

### Newbury Street (1)

- 1 at 10 Newbury St.

### Storrow Drive (3)

- 3 from Embankment Rd. - Clarendon St.

### North End: Commercial Street (4)

- 1 at the corner of Richmond and Commercial St.
- 1 on Commercial St. in front of 145 Commercial St.
- 1 at 106 Commercial St.
- 1 at 88 Commercial St.

### Alignment Loggers (5 Uploaded on a Monthly basis)

- 1 Adjacent to the alignment, at the rear of 95 Berkeley St.
- 1 Between Turnpike Crash Wall and the Railroad alignment, underneath the Clarendon Street Bridge, between Columbus Avenue and Stanhope Street (CURRENTLY NOT FUNCTIONING)
- 1 Between Turnpike Crash Wall and the Railroad alignment, underneath the Berkeley St. Bridge
- 1 Between Turnpike Crash Wall and the Railroad alignment, underneath the Columbus Ave. Bridge, between Berkeley and Clarendon Streets
- 1 Between Turnpike Crash Wall and the Railroad alignment, underneath the Arlington St. Bridge (REPLACED AND RESTARTED ON 8/14/12 BY GZA)