

BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST (BGwT)
BOARD MEETING
June 15th, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Groundwater Trust met virtually via the Zoom meeting platform. 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 4:10 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 #JUN23MTG."

The following trustees were present virtually:

Mr. Robert Whitney, Beacon Hill Civic Association

Mr. Gary Saunders, Back Bay Association

Ms. Angie Liou, Asian Community Development Corporation (Departed meeting at 4:39pm)

Mr. Tim Mitchell, Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay

Ms. Beatrice Nessen, Boston Preservation Alliance

Ms. Janine Commerford, Greater Boston Real Estate Board

Mr. Peter Shilland, Ellis Neighborhood Association

Also present virtually were:

Mr. Christian Simonelli, Executive Director

Ms. Katherine Eshel, Chief of Staff, Environment, Energy and Open Space City of Boston

1. Adoption of March 16th, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes

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

Ms. Nessen, Trustee, moved to adopt the minutes. Mr. Mitchell, Trustee, seconded the motion.

Voted: To adopt the Board meeting minutes.

2. FY24 Budget Adoption

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the FY24 budget. Discussion followed. Mr. Simonelli noted revisions to the budget based on discussion with Trustee Mitchell. Discussion followed. Mr. Simonelli will revise the budget with related notations for the changes discussed.

Mr. Mitchell moved to adopt the FY24 budget with the revisions and related notations. Ms. Liou, Trustee, seconded the motion.

Voted: To adopt the FY24 budget.

3. Executive Director Review and Contract

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the status of his contract with the Trust. Discussion followed. Mr. Whitney stated that he and Mr. Saunders will have a discussion and follow up with the Trustees via email with their recommendations. Discussion followed.

4. Future Trustee Meetings and Remote Participation

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the existing format for Trustee meetings. Discussion followed. The Trustees agreed to continue the hybrid meeting format and have a physical meeting location for all meetings. Discussion followed.

5. Review of SkyGeo Proposal for Pilot Project using InSAR

Mr. Simonelli reviewed the revised proposal to perform a pilot project using standard-resolution and high-resolution InSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite imagery over a select location in the Back Bay. InSAR images can be used to provide millimeter-accurate displacement data for ground and building movement. Discussion followed. The Trustees requested that Mr. Simonelli obtain additional information about the technology and explore potential sources & partners for a grant to fund a pilot project but not to proceed at this time. Discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05p.m.

NEXT MEETING: July 13th, 2023 @ 4:00 pm, at the Lenox Hotel with a virtual attendance option.

Notes submitted by Christian Simonelli, BGwT Executive Director, 6/26/2023.

Approved 28 June 2023



J Commerford, Secretary