

BOSTON GROUNDWATER TRUST (BGwT)
BOARD MEETING
September 20, 2012

The Board of Trustees of the Boston Groundwater Trust held its meeting in the Heritage 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 4:02 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. Molly Sherden, Beacon Hill Civic Association (BHCA)
Mr. Keith Williams, Mayor's Office
Mr. Brian Swett, Mayor's Office
Ms. Janine Commerford, Greater Boston Real Estate Board (GBREB)

Also present:

Elliott Laffer, BGwT Executive Director; Christian Simonelli, BGwT Technical & Recharge Coordinator; Athena Laines, City Councilor Arroyo's Office; Pat Shea, VP of Finance at Saunwin Asset Management; Osman Muhidin; Alumnus from Wentworth Institute of Technology

1. Adoption of the minutes of the July 19, 2012 Meeting

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

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

Voted: To accept the minutes of the July 19, 2012 meeting.

2. Financial Report

Ms. Sherden reviewed the custom transaction detail report, income-expense statement, and balance sheet detail. Discussion followed.

3. Proposed Investment Policy for Reserves

Mr. Mitchell, co-chair, reviewed the proposed investment policy. Discussion followed. Ms. Sherden and Mr. Shea also reviewed the proposed Trust's investment policy on reserve funds. Discussion followed.

Upon further discussion Ms. Sherden suggested that the word significant be inserted before personal holdings under the Investment Strategy line item number 2. Discussion followed.

Mr. Gilbert, Trustee, moved to adopt that the word significant be inserted before personal holdings under the Investment Strategy line item number 2. Mr. Swett, Trustee, seconded the motion.

Voted: To insert the word significant before personal holdings under the Investment Strategy line item number 2.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Mitchell moved that the Trust adopt the investment policy for reserves with the above mentioned amendment. The board voted in favor of 7-1 in favor to adopt the investment policy for reserves with the above mentioned amendment.

Voted: To adopt the investment policy for reserves with the above mentioned amendment.

4. Review of Conflict of Interest Policy

Mr. Laffer reviewed the Trust's conflict of interest policy with the board members. Discussion followed. Mr. Shilland inquired about some of the language and suggested some amendments to the policy. Discussion followed.

Mr. Gilbert will work with Mr. Shilland on drafting potential amendments to the policy and present those at the next board meeting for review.

5. Dartmouth Street Update

Mr. Laffer updated the board the Dartmouth Street repairs. He noted that BWSC is scheduled to reline one 36" line on Dartmouth Street and one 15" line at the corner of Dartmouth & Beacon Streets on September 20th & 21st. Discussion followed.

6. Executive Director's Report

BGWT Executive Director Mr. Elliott Laffer distributed his report. Discussion followed. Refer to the attached *Executive Director's Report: September 20, 2012* for a complete list of all activities. Discussion followed

7. 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: September 20, 2012* for a complete list of all activities. Discussion followed.

Mr. Simonelli and Mr. Laffer noted that they are currently reviewing foundation information for buildings in the North End and Bulfinch Triangle. Mr. Laffer noted that the information is Central Artery Data and was furnished by Chris Erikson of McPhail Associates. Discussion followed.

8. Other Business

Mr. Gilbert suggested the Trust review the infrastructure details and groundwater levels at Dartmouth and Beacon Street's at the next board meeting. Mr. Gilbert requested a sample of the proposed liner to be installed by BWSC. Discussion followed

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 15, 2012 @ 4:00 pm at the Lenox Hotel.

Notes submitted by Christian Simonelli, BGWT Technical & Recharge Coordinator, on 9/21/12.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Galen Gilbert, Secretary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
September 20, 2012

1. **City-State Groundwater Working Group** – The working group will meet again in October.
2. **Financing** – We have received our City funds for FY2013. Thanks to the Environment Department and, especially, to Annie Lee for keeping this on track.
3. **MBTA** – The T has completed its test during which the recharge water was turned off in the area of the South End near Back Bay Station; with the injection wells once again operating, groundwater levels have returned to where they were before the test. The T and its consultants continue to work on the study of the causes and potential solutions to low groundwater levels in this area; they expect to have a report for the January meeting of the Working Group with a public meeting to follow.
4. **Dartmouth Street** – Relining of the sewer on Dartmouth Street that is a likely cause of low groundwater levels there is mostly complete. However, the two sections remaining to be done, with work now scheduled to begin today, are closest to our observation well that is consistently the lowest reading in that area. Unfortunately, the work done to date has not yet led to any improvement.
5. **North End** – Groundwater levels near the corner of Commercial and Richmond Streets remain depressed in spite of the repair work undertaken earlier by BWSC. They remain committed to investigating potential additional sources of drawdown in the area.
6. **Blagden Street** – Sewer repairs scheduled for this month have slipped somewhat. We are still hopeful that they will be completed this fall.
7. **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.
8. **Website** – Traffic to our website remains solid, and I continue to get compliments on the information on the site.
9. **Meetings** – Tim, Gary, and I met with Brian Swett, the City's new Chief of Energy and Environment, to continue to bring him up-to-date on our work. Brian will become one of the Mayor's ex-officio appointments to the Trust Board. I also attended a scoping session for the project at 275 Albany Street, and Christian and I met with MaryLee Halpin, the new executive director of the Beacon Hill Civic Association.
10. **Comment Letters** – I filed comments on projects at 1085 and 1275 Boylston Street and 275 Albany Street. As always, they are posted on our website.

TECHNICAL & RECHARGE COORDINATOR'S UPDATE
BGwT Meeting: September 20TH, 2012

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR DUTIES

WELL MONITORING

Our well network was most recently read from Monday July 9th - August 20th. We began a new set of readings on Thursday August 23rd and should be wrapping this set up by the beginning of next week.

DATA LOGGERS

Solinst Units (uploaded on weekly basis)

I have deployed the Barologger and 4 of the Dataloggers in wells over in the North End.

Commercial Street

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

I have also deployed 3 Dataloggers in wells over on Exeter Street; between Boylston Street and Huntington Avenue to monitor groundwater levels during the construction of the Avalon Exeter Residences (75-77 Exeter Street).

I upload the following loggers on a monthly basis:

Alignment Loggers

- 1 Adjacent to the alignment, at the rear of 95 Berkeley St.
- 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 Clarendon Street Bridge, between Columbus Avenue and Stanhope Street (CURRENTLY NOT FUNCTIONING)
- 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)

In-Situ Units

16 of our 21 In-Situ Dataloggers are deployed throughout the west zone. I upload the following loggers on a weekly basis:

Storrow Drive

- 4 from Embankment Rd. - Clarendon St.
- Levels in all four of these wells are over elev. 4'

Dartmouth Street

- 8 from Beacon St. – Commonwealth Ave.
- We will keep these loggers in place until BWSC has relined the sewer and the levels in this area come back up

Ellis Neighborhood

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

Meetings

Elliott & I met with the new Executive Director of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Mary Lee Halpin. Ms. Halpin would us to make a presentation to the Association updating them on the Trust's efforts sometime this Fall.

Elliott & I met with the Technical Advisory Committee. We reviewed hot spots, well and logger data, ways to confirm well functionality, and future potential well locations.

RECHARGE COORDINATOR DUTIES

- 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.
- Using ArcMAP GIS software to try to develop a new way to look at well data.