

Core Group for a Permanent Solution
November 23, 2009

Present: Mac Ray, Scotty Kilbreth, Polly Bussiere, Jackie Conant, Debi Hutchins, Judy Hamilton, Gary Dougherty, Gene Grouleau, Lisa Cummings, Rusty Knight, Larry Giroux, Rob & Mitzie Turnbull

CDBG Letter of Intent - Debi reported that the letter is ready to go. Amy Landry suggested that the letter not be delivered until Wednesday, after the hearing in case anything needs to be changed. The town has contacted Bangor Savings Bank regarding a loan for the cash match, which is contingent on receiving CDBG funding. The expected turn around time from DECD with the go ahead OR do not apply for CDBG funding is ten days.

Canton hearing Tuesday, November 24th 6:30 p.m. at the Community Building was intended to meet the CDBG application requirements. The notification in the papers did not get posted with the required HUD logo so still another hearing will be necessary before the January application deadline. The primary agenda item is citizen feedback on the three options presented in Kleinschmidt preliminary report. It was suggested that the water district be prepared with estimates of costs for moving their intake pipes to a deeper location. Before a move can be made, testing would needed to determine the right location. The intake was designed for a 10' depth and at the low point was a little less than 5'. A cost estimate would include time and testing as well as actual moving costs. An idea of increased costs to the district for generating quality drinking water during the low water levels could also be useful. If time permits, discussion could be initiated to generate ideas for the revitalization of the two dam properties.

Recent flooding - The heavy rains on Nov. 14th caused flooding of all waterways in the area. Keeping to the Water Level Management Plan for the old dam, the logs in the temporary dam were removed one layer at a time over the required period of several weeks and the last logs came out around Nov. 2nd. The temporary dam cannot be managed to bring about a quick response. The flooding was an act of God and the high water on any property was no fault of the dam or the town. When a permanent dam is fully operational, water district personnel will be responsible for the day-to-day maintenance and operation. Mac Ray and Mark Blanchette have become the caretakers of the temporary dam. The Emergency Action Plan states that the fire department is to be called if the regular operators are not available in an emergency.

Permitting and timeframe - Even if Canton receives CDBG funding, it seems unlikely that construction would begin before Spring 2011. CDBG program, however, calls for grant projects to be "substantially underway (staff hired, environmental review complete, program costs obligated, construction begun) within six months of grant award." Kleinschmidt would immediately be hired to complete the detailed designs and permitting for a new dam once funding is available. With the Emergency Dam Safety Order on the old dam, MEMA will be involved in this process even though DEP would be the permitting authority. Although the permitting process could take months, both MEMA and DEP should be motivated to help Canton find a permanent resolution.

Fundraising - The lake association is making plans to raise funds for the cash match through a capital campaign. A sub-committee of the Core Group will search for private foundation grants and event fundraising. The two groups need to coordinate efforts to work together to avoid duplication of effort or divergent paths. With successful fundraising efforts, even if spread over a three-year period, Canton's

loan for the cash match should be repaid within a couple of years and be tax neutral. Bills would not be paid by CDBG until expended and at that point would be paid 75% by the grant and 25% by local funds from the cash match.

The Canton/Hartford 2010 calendars are for sale in both town offices. Half of the proceeds will go to the Canton Dam Fund. Another Super Raffle is also planned for next summer.

Next Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 7th at the Canton Town office.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Hamilton, Secretary

DRAFT