

CDBG Advisory Committee
December 6, 2010

Present: Mac Ray, Dave Bowen, Don Hutchins, Judy Hamilton, and Gary Dougherty

Archeological Survey

As expected, Dr. Ellen Cowie from Northeast Archaeology Research Center in Farmington is writing a letter to Canton with copy to Dr. Spiess at Maine Historic Preservation Commission stating:

“Based on preliminary background research and visual inspection of the proposed project areas for the new dam and boat launch, NE ARC recommends no additional archaeological investigations are needed prior to the construction of the Canton Dam on Whitney Brook.”

In response, Dr. Spiess emailed Mac that they will issue a “no archaeological properties” sign off in a letter this week. Barb Fortier, AVCOG, acting on this email exchange, is posting a notice in the Sun Journal this week for the FONSI [Finding of No Significant Impact] and request for release of the CDBG funds to Canton as well. Following the required 15-day public comment period, the State has 15 days to review the FONSI, any public comments received and release the \$500K. The grant funds should be released by January 14th.

Dr. Cowie’s letter will also become a part of the NRPA permit application being filed by Kleinschmidt. A bill, as yet not received, is expected for this letter and should be a fraction of the cost of the full survey.

Kleinschmidt Survey data

Mac printed a copy of the survey mapping done by Kleinschmidt. We can use this over the winter to work on a layout plan for these properties and develop a visual image of the completed project.

NRPA permit application for the new dam

A link to Holly MacKenzie’s draft of the NRPA permit application was circulated to the Advisory Committee for review. Page by page, comments, questions and corrections were made. Mac will get Holly a copy of the CDBG grant application clearly stating the benefits of a new dam to the water district and the committee’s feedback in general. A public notice of Intent to File, letters to abutting property owners and the 100+ page NRPA application will be submitted before the end of the year to keep the project on schedule. DEP has a 120-day statutory limit to review and respond. The bid process should begin in early spring.

Wreaths to benefit the dam fund

Wreaths are available in the Canton and Hartford town offices. A \$12 minimum donation is requested and ALL proceeds will go to the Canton Dam Fund. At this writing \$206 have been added. [Questions? Call 597-2604]

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, January 10th. We expect to start developing a visual image of the “revitalized” dam properties with a new dam, boat ramp, parking, municipal park and green space.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Hamilton, Secretary