

CDBG Advisory Committee
September 27, 2010

Present: Mac Ray, Polly Bussiere, Scotty Kilbreth, Jackie Conant, Rob Turnbull, Judy Hamilton, Larry Giroux, Gary Dougherty and Barb Fortier (AVCOG).

NRPA application

Holly MacKenzie, Kleinschmidt Civil/Structural Engineer handling the permitting process for the dam project, is finishing the NRPA application. She has received responses from the Maine Natural Areas Program and the Passamaquoddy Tribe which expressed no objections.

CDBG Environmental review

The required 30-day response period for State Historic Preservation to comment on the environmental review of the dam project has passed. Barb Fortier will contact them tomorrow to indicate that she will be posting the "Combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact [FONSI] and Intent to Request Release of Funds" in the paper this week. Two copies of the FONSI report will be available for 15-days for review and comment in the town office. Afterwards, the FONSI (including comments) will be forwarded to the Maine Dept. of Economics and Community Development for State comment for a further 15-day period. The environmental clearance is expected in early November with the release of the CDBG funds to Canton.

Brownfields Cleanup

Judy spoke with Brian Beneski, our DEP Brownfields contact, regarding the cleanup requirements this morning. He supported the committee's resolve to NOT hold up the dam replacement project for the Brownfields cleanup. Because the only excavation necessary for building a new dam (anchoring the structure to the embankment to prevent scouring bypass of water flow) is well upstream of the vats where contaminated fire debris from the tannery is buried, Brian said we should complete the new dam and combine the cleanup and boat ramp projects to follow when funding is secured.

Mac estimated the amount of soil to be excavated for the dam to be about 2000 cubic feet or 80 yards. This amount could easily be stored on site and then used to backfill after the anchor walls are in place. In this case, Brian suggested that the excavated soil be analyzed to determine the level of contamination and the remedial action required.

Dam construction will require not only limited excavation but also access to and staging for construction on the dam properties. Brian is going to check on measures required to keep construction workers safe from contamination. Forty-hour training in handling contaminated soils will be required by a supervisor and/or the construction contractors. This requirement will need to also be addressed in the NRPA permit.

Brian also confirmed that the north side of the brook (Map U2, lot 41) does not require remedial action. The feasibility study received from Ransom describes the areas to receive a marked cover barrier. Ransom's rough estimate of costs, with a 20% contingency, is \$228,000 for a marker barrier or \$700,000 for off site disposal of contaminated soils. Mac, Don Hutchins,

and AVCOG personnel will arrange to meet with Brian this week to review the draft of the feasibility study, which will become the basis for an EPA cleanup grant application.

EPA Cleanup Grant application

Barb Fortier from AVCOG joined us to lead us through the application. The deadline for submittal is October 15th. Public notification of the intent to file must be done by October 1st. Jackie Conant will work with Kathy Hutchins to ensure that the notice appears in the Sun Journal by the end of this week. The notice must include a public informational meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. during our next scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Monday, October 11th. A draft of this application must be available in the town office for review and comment. A copy of the public notice and notes from the public meeting must be included with the application.

The EPA grant requires a 20% match or a "hardship" waiver of the match from EPA. Canton will apply for a "hardship" waiver and Barb Fortier will look into what this requires. If one is not given, the matching funds will need to be found elsewhere.

Permission has been granted to use the town of Howland's successful EPA application as a template and assignments were made for drafting Canton's. AVCOG and their consultant (Glenn Daukas, Campbell Environmental) will complete the technical portions and other specified sections with our help. Volunteers were given sections to revise and send in draft form to Barb before the end of the week. Judy will send both the .pdf and Word document formats of the Howland application to those working on Canton's application. Barb will get the first draft to the town office to coincide with the public notice. There will be a work session for those involved in the application next Monday, October 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the town office to make any needed revisions to the draft document. This group will also prepare for the public meeting on the 11th.

Letters of support will be sought from AVCOG, IF&W, Town of Hartford, Canton Water District, Lake Anasagunticook Assn., Mill Pond Assn. and any other local group, such as the Snowmobile Club who has an interest in this project. Brian Beneski volunteered to contact Nick Hodgkins, DEP Voluntary Clean-up Program, to provide a letter of support/intent for the dam property cleanup, which must accompany our application. Barb pointed out that it would be helpful if Canton moved forward their commitment to enroll the dam properties in DEP's VRAP demonstrate commitment to the Brownfields cleanup.

An application/public meeting work session is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 4th at the Canton town office.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee and the Public Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 11th most likely at the Canton Community Building. The public notice will confirm time and location.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Hamilton, Secretary