

Advisory Committee Meeting
March 28, 2011

In attendance: Jackie Conant, Mac Ray, Gary Dougherty, Polly Bussiere, Leon Bucher (IF&W) and Tom Standard (Sun Journal).

CDBG Funding

The dam project funding through CDBG is secure and not in jeopardy. Sun journal article on March 26th headlining “Canton Dam Money Held Up by Federal Budget” caused ripples of concern locally as well as in Augusta. Canton got a memo from Office of Economics and Community Development (State department administering the CDBG funds) saying that the 2011 grant applications were being held up while a decision was being made in Washington concerning possible funding cuts. The \$500K for the dam project was 2010 grant and those funds are secure in the bank for Canton drawdowns.

While this does not affect the dam, the Canton Water District has a 2011 grant for upgrading these facilities, which is on hold at the moment. Their proposal is high on the priority list for 2011, however, and is unlikely to be affected even if the CDBG funds available decrease.

Snowmobile/Pedestrian bridge

Kevin Chamberlain emailed Mac with a materials list for the bridge he designed. The hope is to find donations of these materials or discounts from local vendors to hold down the cost of this project. This bridge is one of several extensions of the dam project and separate funding will be sought. Alex Thibodeau offered prefabricated arched beams to the project but because of their design and size will not work. The Canton Hi-Riders snowmobile club was approached to seek grant funding for the project. Apparently there are no funds from this source. Because the bridge is for pedestrians and a connection to walking trails through Canton, the Hi-Riders will contact the Trails Committee to see if a joint effort for grant funding is a possible.

NRPA permit

Holly MacKenzie at Kleinschmidt reported that there was no news and things are quiet on the application procedure. The NRPA application is being reviewed by State agencies and a response to the permit application is due by June 4th.

Contractor bid packages are on Kleinschmidt's to do list for the near future. We want to have these ready so that they can be sent out as soon as DEP responds to the permit application. Construction is expected to begin by July.

Boat ramp

Leon Bucher joined us from IF&W to give an update on the boat ramp project, another of the extensions to the dam project. Requests for proposals were issued by IF&W in January. Because Kleinschmidt has knowledge and experience through the dam project, it was possible that they would be interested and able to present a proposal for boat ramp designs, permitting and bid packages acceptable to IF&W within the constraints to pre-qualify and eliminate the need to put the design phase out to bid. Kleinschmidt was successful in presenting a proposal dated March 25th and Leon gave the committee some of the highlights. The boat ramp project is expected to qualify for a Permit by Rule from DEP, which is simpler and requires a short period of time for a response. Topographical survey is needed to

establish the boundary lines and the needed to request an easement from the town and the Canton Water District for the purposes of constructing a public boat launch.

The question of a float being installed next to the ramp was raised. This is a common part of lake ramps and less common on streams. If the town wants to have a float, the town would have to designate someone to install and remove it in times of emergency caused by high water levels. The immediate response from the committee was to question its value and need. This will be discussed further by the selectmen before a firm decision is made.

The float discussion raised the question about where boats coming from the lake into town on business would tie up. The committee will consider options for providing a landing and tie up for short term near the boat ramp when Kleinschmidt submits preliminary designs in May.

Kleinschmidt will handle the design, permitting and bid specifications but not construction. They will work with Brian Beneski at DEP concerning the Brownfields assessment and recommendations. Mac has volunteered to monitor the construction process.

LAA Capital Campaign

Gary Dougherty, lake association treasurer, reported that approximately \$72,000 currently exists in the bank and in pledges for the dam project. The LAA capital campaign also generated an additional \$15,000, which was given to the Town of Canton more than a month ago. The \$15K has become part of the matching funds required by the CDBG funding.

Next Meeting will be Monday, April 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Canton Town Office.

Respectfully submitted by,

Judy Hamilton, Secretary
CDBG Advisory Committee