

WW Communication Mtg Minutes

6/7/22

Approved on November 15, 2022

Attending: Melissa Manka, Eric Ford, Amy Macrellis, Seth Jensen, Heather Armata, Juli Beth Hinds, Pat Haller, Gordon Gebauer

Minutes:

Minutes that need to be approved: May 2nd, March 9th

Pat motions to approve May 2nd, seconded by heather, all approve

March 9th motion to approve by Eric, seconded by Pat, all approved

Project status updates:

-DC has supplemental PER to review, and environmental info doc, to issue a finding of no significant impact. This will close out step 1 to move into design and permitting. Documents have been in hand for over a year. There has been additional correspondence with DC in the last few weeks. Delay is due to an updated capacity determination, which engineers are working on. Expect that we would have a new capacity determination letter in the next few weeks. Hopefully we will hear from DC by July.

-The hydro geo report has been submitted, hopefully action soon.

-Working on the Engineering Service Agreement to get the new team on contract. Possibly will be ready by the 6/20 Planning Meeting for review. Most likely finalized by August.

-Once the EID report is reviewed, we will need to have a public hearing. It presents us with an opportunity to talk about environmental benefits. This hearing is a prefunctury, and can be an agenda item on the selectboard meeting. We should get this done as soon as possible (July?). And then tell the public that there will be a public outreach meeting later in the early fall.

-ARPA Committee has developed a two phase application process to disperse local funds. First phase due at the end of July. Second application due at the end of Sept. We have a couple outstanding things and are still looking for matching funds. We will be applying for local funds through the ARPA Committee to offset project costs, approximately \$300,000 should be the ask. Melissa will submit the request to the Committee.

-Communication protocols for the committee:

As a town committee, we need to post agendas and minutes, which we have been doing. We can't make decisions via email, only at meetings. There have been a lot of public records requests. Any emails to the group including Melissa are public record. We can share info but can only make decisions in meetings. Should we have a separate email for the committee work vs personal email? Are we an official committee? Yes, we are an ad hoc subgroup of the Planning Commission. A quorum is 3 of us. We should prepare for the public to be present at our meetings.

-Communication plan and timeline:

Wendy Doane has offered to help with visuals with the project - two of us will meet with her starting this summer. Would like to spend time with Melissa/JB/Amy updating the website soon.

We need to update the project communication timeline, the earliest is probably Mid-July to have that conversation. Eric and Seth will have an initial conversation with Wendy about visuals in the next few weeks.

-Melissa will reset the project timeline, and then we can discuss a renewed communication/plan timeline at the next meeting.

-We will add "about the team" info to the website when the engineers are on board.

-Next meeting is Thursday, July 7th at 10am.