**Shutesbury Water Resource Committee**

**Minutes of January 27, 2014 Meeting**

**Members Present:**

Paul Lyons, Acting Chair

April Stein

Al Werner, recorder

Mike Ross

Mark Rivers

Bob Thompson, guest

**Called to order 7:15pm**

**Topics discussed**

1. After the first of the year Hugh Harwell, announced that he will be moving out of town and resigned his position on the committee and his chairmanship. Paul Lyons offered to chair the meeting - all agreed and thanked him.
2. Our future meeting time was discussed and we decided to meet next on 17 February and then 17 March.
3. Minutes from previous meeting were not available for review - a vote to accept the minutes could not be taken tonight.
4. Posting of committee minutes was discussed – Paul will look into the process.
5. Vacancies on the committee: With Bill Elliott stepping down and with Hugh Harwell’s recent departure – the committee has two vacancies. We need to have representation from the Board of Health and the Planning Board. Al will contact Bill Elliott about identifying a Board of Health representative and Paul will contact the Planning Board.
6. There was some discussion of the terms each committee member. April will check with Leslie Bracebridge.
7. Our recent budget request was discussed – April will check on the status/timing of our request. Paul and Al agreed to meet with the Finance Committee as needed to explain our budget request.
8. Al explained that he will have a sabbatical next year and will focus on the water resources in town. He plans to monitor up to six water wells along the ridge in order to document seasonal changes in the water table and plans to monitor the discharge and salinity of Roaring Brook. It was agreed that it would be in the town’s best interest if the budget request recently submitted would be approved for funding by this summer in support of Al’s research.
9. Paul and Al will attend the All Board meeting on 4 February – Paul will present the work of the Water Resources Committee. Committee discussed which topics to present.
10. Mark, who represents the Lake Wyola Advisory Committee, mentioned that he may be interested in sharing his position with Bob Thompson – the Committee agreed this would be acceptable.
11. Future Committee Chair. It was agreed to wait until the two vacancies are filled before deciding on a new committee Chair. Paul agreed to be the interim chair until a permanent chair is identified.
12. There was a discussion concerning how we want to proceed as a committee and how we want to conduct our monthly meetings. There was general consensus that the committee focus on smaller, more focused studies and issues.
13. The committee also discussed future directions for the committee. In general, we want to continue to work to better understand the water resources in town, in particular, the water quantity and quality.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm.**

**Next Meeting 2/17/14 at 7 pm, Shutesbury Town Hall.**