



**Warner's Pond Task Force  
Subcommittee for Dam Removal  
Zoom Meeting  
January 9, 2025**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Vickie Alani, Jeff Collins, Malcolm Bryant, Elizabeth Morrison-Howe, Samiksha Poudel

**Attendees:** Four members of the public attended virtually: Cynthia Katz, Ed Nardi, Daniel Stapleton, and Tracie Dunn.

**1. Call to Order**

Jeff Collins called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by Liz and Vickie.

**3. Public Comments**

- Cynthia Katz inquired about the availability of the proposal. Jeff explained that the subcommittee was reviewing the proposal provided by Toby Berkman and Rachel Freed. Once finalized by the Task Force, the proposal will be made public as part of the outreach process.

**4. Discussion on Proposal Document**

The committee reviewed and refined the proposal document provided by Toby Berkman and Rachel Freed. Key discussion points included:

- Agreed to accept the changes made during the meeting.
- Adding a footnote as suggested by Toby; however, the group determined that it would be more effective to create a separate section with common definitions across all three subcommittee proposals. This will be discussed in the full Task Force meeting.
- Detailed discussion on the dam removal sections of the proposal, referencing the 30% Basis of Design Report to ensure a clearer understanding.
- Decision on whether to specify turtle species in the proposal or not. Will be getting the confirmation from Delia regarding it.

- Proposal to request the Task Force to gather more detailed information regarding sediment removal, channel stabilization methods, and associated costs from Sump Co.

#### **5. Additional Public Comments (8:39 PM)**

- Cynthia Katz (20 Conant Street) thanked the group for the discussion and noted that the referenced \$2.5 million was never voted on by Town Meeting for dam removal. She also suggested revisiting scout access and questioned whether the projected financial savings over 50 years because of the dam removal has been looked into. Also, if dam reclassification has been looked into.
- Daniel Stapleton (20 Conant Street) raised questions about channel location and formation. He noted that dam removal projects typically involve a constructed channel to maximize ecological and recreational benefits but observed that this approach may not be fully reflected in the current proposal. He suggested enhancing the language in the Uncertainties section to reflect these concerns and emphasized that the current location is not the natural channel location.
- Tracie Dunn asked whether a visual graphic is available to illustrate what the dam removal would look like, including impacts on Pocket Park and Kenny Park. She was referred to look into Section 3 of the Conceptual Design in the Basis of Design Report as a potential resource.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.