

# Plymouth Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee

## Minutes

Meeting convened: March 10, 2011, 2:30 PM; Carver Town Hall, lower level meeting room 4.

Minutes prepared by Maureen Thomas

**Present:** Sarah Hewins (Carver Delegate/Committee Chair); David Gould (Plymouth Delegate); Oliver Durrell (Plymouth Alternate); Brian Wick (Plympton Alternate); Valerie Massard (Bourne Delegate); Maureen Thomas (Kingston Alternate); Bill Napolitano (SRPEDD). **Absent:** Jack O'Leary (Plympton Delegate); Patricia Cassady (Middleboro Alternate); Fred Svenson (Kingston Delegate); Committee Representative from Wareham. **Guests:** Judy Barber, Jim McNealy, Don Smith, & Kevin Cline on Plymouth's Article 41

Meeting called to order at 2:30 PM

Agenda Item	Key Discussion points	Next Steps
<b>1. Old Business</b> A. Review & Approve Minutes	Deferred review of minutes to hear presentation – see C. below.	Review at next meeting
B. Bourne Representative	The Committee welcomed Valerie Massard, Planner for Town of Plymouth, as the new PCAAC Delegate from Bourne.	Continue to search for Wareham rep.
C. Auto Dealership Colony Place	Presentation on Plymouth Town Meeting Warrant Article 41 regarding a requested zoning change to allow a car dealership within Plymouth's aquifer protection district at Colony Place. Heard from proponents and opponents of Article 41.	Voted (4-0-1) to write an educational letter regarding aquifer protection and Article 41 to all 7 towns within aquifer (see letter attached)
D. Planning Forums	Continued discussion & planning for aquifer forums and specifically Forum # 1, <i>The Water Beneath Us – Our Hidden Resource</i> , to be held on March 30 <sup>th</sup> .  Finalized date of Forum # 2 for April 27 <sup>th</sup> .	Finalize Forum # 1 flyer (see attached)  Finalize agenda for Forum # 2
E. Forum #'s 3 & 4	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
F. Publicity & Outreach	See D. above.	Discuss at next meeting
G. Website, mailings, etc.	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
H. Delegates from Wareham	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
H. Update on Land Protection	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
I. Update on 604(b) grant	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
J. New Grant Opportunities	No discussion.	Discuss at next meeting
K. PCAAC Representative for League of Women Voters	Valerie Massard volunteered to be the PCAAC rep. to the League of Women Voters.	Discuss at next meeting

<b>2. Other Business</b>	No other business.	
<b>3. Next Meeting Agenda</b>	Finalizing forums, etc.	To be posted before next meeting
<b>4. Adjourn</b>	Meeting adjourned (voted 4-0-2) at 4:20 p.m.	<b>Next Meeting, Town Hall, Room # 4, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 p.m., Carver</b>



## *Plymouth / Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee*

*Bourne Carver Kingston Middleborough Plymouth Plympton  
Wareham*

29 March 2011

RE: Plymouth April 2, 2011 Town Meeting: Proposed Article 41

To Whom It May Concern:

The Plymouth-Carver Aquifer is our greatest shared natural resource. In 2004, leadership from all seven towns in the Aquifer formed the Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee (PCAAC). The main objective of the PCAAC is to inform the general public and local officials about the importance of this valuable natural resource and how to work together, as stewards and communities, to protect it because water knows no political boundaries. The Plymouth/Carver Aquifer needs to be thought of regionally, not locally. As your appointed delegates, we continue to work to develop a cooperative, stewardship approach to meeting the needs of the Aquifer and the populations that are dependent upon it.

Concerns about the future quality and quantity of water in the Aquifer have accompanied growth in the region for the past several years. With an influx of population and development comes a greater threat of consumption, decrease in groundwater recharge areas, and groundwater contamination. Contamination may come from stormwater runoff from increased amounts of impervious surfaces, more septic systems, industrial chemicals, fertilizer and pesticide use, and other sources.

The PCAAC is an advisory body, not a regulatory body. We work to develop regional open space and aquifer management assessments, to explore water supply protection elements of existing town bylaws or proposed new ones, and to provide guidance and recommendations for towns to consider as possible future best management practices, bylaws, or regulations. As an advisory committee, we voted at our most recent public meeting not to take a position either for or against Article 41 that is being proposed at Plymouth's upcoming Town Meeting on 2 April 2011. Instead, our recommendation is that any of the seven towns in the seven-town Aquifer region should consider the Plymouth/Carver Sole Source Aquifer in every decision-making process. We understand that Plymouth has an Aquifer Protection Bylaw in place and that this will be part of any special permit decision-making process with respect to Article 41 and to other projects within the community. We continue to encourage towns to consider the Aquifer as they move forward with their community planning and permitting projects.

Sincerely,

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Sarah Hewins, Chair, Carver Delegate  
Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee  
(O) 508-866-3482  
(E) [sarah.hewins@carverma.org](mailto:sarah.hewins@carverma.org)

# Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Forum Series

## Forum #1: "The Water Beneath Us – Our Hidden Resource"

First in a Four-Forum Series

PLYMOUTH-CARVER  
AQUIFER



Wednesday, March 30, 2011

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

PLYMOUTH-CARVER  
AQUIFER



Selectmen's Meeting Room, Carver Town Hall  
108 Main Street, Carver, MA

**Sponsored by:** The Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee and  
The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District  
through a grant from the Sheehan Family Foundation

- Objectives:** Participants gain an understanding of:
- What an Aquifer is and how an aquifer is formed
  - How water from an aquifer is used
  - What a balanced aquifer system is and why it is important
  - How aquifers are vulnerable to pollutants and/or over use
  - How to protect the quality and quantity of the aquifer

**Welcome and Meet the P/C Aquifer Advisory Committee:**

Sarah Hewins, Moderator  
Chair, Plymouth/Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee  
Conservation Agent, Carver; Selectman, Carver

**Introduction:** Bob Bentley, Carver, MA ( 5 min)

**Our Local Groundwater Story**

Sam Tyler, Tyler Well & Pump, Carver, MA (15 min)  
David Gould, Environmental Resources Manager, DPW, Plymouth, MA (15 min)  
Bob Bentley, Principal, Analytical Balance Corp., Middleboro, MA (15 min)

**Questions, Comments, Discussion** (30 min)

**Wrap Up & Next Forum**

Sarah Hewins, Moderator