

Winnisquam Watershed Network

Board of Directors Meeting

March 15, 2021

Meeting Opened @ 5:30 PM PM (EST)

Meeting Adjourned @ 7:20PM (EST)

Attendees by Phone or Zoom: Lisa Eggleston, Jim Chapman, Katherine Keen, Robert Day, Tom Camp, Dick Tracy, Dean Anson, Tony Carita, Lisa Morin, and Chuck Mitchell.

February Meeting Minutes approved.

Treasurer's report. In Ed's absence Lisa E. stated that we have approximately 55K, which will allow us to maintain cash flow to pay intern and Trout Unlimited prior to being reimbursed by grant funds. Trout Unlimited expected to start culvert assessment work in April. Believe grant is on Governor and Council agenda for April. Renewed insurance policy, declined terrorism portion.

Our intern, Melissa Macheras is working well, she has taken on an increased workload.

Lisa E, informed the board that the EPA project manager on the Watershed Plan passed away suddenly at the very young age of 46.

Four board members completed survey, would like to see more.

Project workshop is scheduled for May 18, 2021, 4:30-6:00 PM, will be virtual. Email reminder will be sent and message posted on Facebook page. Melissa will be helping with publicity.

Goal to have full time Lake Host from Memorial Day to Labor Day, approximate cost \$12,000. Board approved up to \$8,700 for lake host. Based on last year's boat traffic we qualify for \$2,200 in funding from NH Lakes for Lake Host grant. We need to raise about \$2,100 more. Thank you Jim Chapman for his offer to match donations to the Lake Host program. Lisa E. will post message on Facebook about matching funds and donations needed for Lake Host.

Jim's daughter (Meredith Whole Living) held a yoga-thon to raise funds for WWN.

Lisa E will check with family on whether it's okay to mention David Ellsworth memorial in our newsletter to members. Bob brought up the idea of legacy gift. Tom mentioned that there are sample letters in LGL. Tom suggested sending all donors a newsletter they can always opt out. Tom advised the board that LGL is mostly up and running.

Lisa E. advised the board that Sue Massey completed transfer of website to new platform. Lisa E. asked the board to check our website and provide feedback. We don't need a maintenance contract and should see some savings, but the main thing is the new platform has fewer problems.

Board agreed to pay the \$40.00 to join the NH Gives Day this spring to see how it works. Also we need to register with Attorney General's Charitable Trust Unit.

NH Charitable Foundation denied our request last year, suggested we come back. Would like to get grant funds to help us build membership. Tom is willing to assist with ways to obtain contact information for people who live and/or own property around the lake. Lisa E mentioned that Melissa, the intern, can assist with this project. Dean asked if anyone knows a consultant that could assist with writing this grant.

Lisa E and Chuck confirmed that the Anchorage property did sell, there is little information about the new owners or what their intentions are. Local newspaper wrote that new owners plan to keep current management and run it the same as in the past. Chuck pointed out that there is a fair amount of wetlands on the Anchorage property, which would be difficult for the owners to obtain permission for further development.

The board discussed that the Governor ended the commission study on the possible sale and/or development of the State School property. The board remains concerned that the Governor will try to include Ahern State Park in a sale.

Discussion took place on land preservation in the watershed. Chuck pointed out that Tilton has a change of use tax, which the town uses funds raised to purchase and preserve land. Dean stated that Laconia has something similar. Board agrees that WWN needs to advocate with State and Conservation Committees in the watershed to preserve land.

Chuck stated that Tilton has allocated 5K this year toward milfoil management in Silver Lake and Winnisquam but it won't come from taxpayer funds. The town will be able to reimburse WWN for work done in Tilton.

Tom suggested that board members sign a confidentiality agreement with respect to access to LGL. Tom noted that there are currently four levels of access to LGL; administrative (Lisa E & Tom), gift (Ed), fund raising and volunteer.

Meeting adjourned, Lisa reminded everyone that Monday, March 22, was our next strategic planning meeting.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 5th at 5:30 pm EST.