

Winnisquam Watershed Network
Board of Directors Meeting
August 15, 2022

Meeting held at Ed's House

Board Attendees: Lisa Eggleston, Chuck Mitchell, Robert Day, Ed Stephenson, Dick Tracy, Dean Anson, Dawn Dupac, Tony Carita, Tom Camp and Judy Hughes. Kath Keen joined us by phone. Cindy was present.

Meeting start 5:35 PM

Treasurer report, bank balance \$97,245.76 Sanbornton just paid \$6,000.00, Ed will follow up with Town of Meredith.

Meeting minutes accepted for July and annual meeting.

Summer Social update. Silent Auction \$1,836.00. 50/50 \$230.00. Additional \$945.00 in donations. \$800 in merchandise sales, net revenue \$3,200. We picked up 4 new members. In addition to money raised we raised awareness. The band is interested in doing this again. Mark from Lobster Connection would consider hosting event next year. All agreed silent auction is the way to go instead of sponsorship. Need to get request for silent auction out sooner next year.

Dean asked about any new members from Tyler Shore Road, Dean made contact with a few people from that road. Lisa believes that Maryann Longo from Tyler Shore would like to rejoin the association and get involved with the board.

Lisa is looking for a board member to store WWN product, photos and digital prints and is willing to mail out merchandise. Tom will look into setting up online store on our WWN website. Discussion took place on printing merchandise for WWN and what is the most advantageous way for us to move forward. Dean will check with Piche's. Lisa noted that Silver Lake Association places an order once a year. Ed will check with the President of Silver Lake to see who they use for merchandise.

Tributary monitoring team (Bob & Dean) will take samples on Thursday August 18. Ed & Dick will conduct VLAP on August 29 and Lisa & team will conduct nearshore sampling that same day and get samples to Ed to bring to DES. Identified some people from Lake Opechee who are now conducting VLAP monitoring. Ed trained them this year. Dean worked with Taylor to collect samples from tributaries leading into Lake Opechee.

319 Grant, we have draft agreement. We need to supply additional information. We've been advised to wait to issue RFQ until the signed agreement gets approved by the state Attorney General. Cost to print material for the board and presentation was \$319.00, which can go towards grant match. Lisa and Cindy presented WWN plan to the Town of Meredith. Sanbornton presentation is scheduled for August 18 and Belmont is August 22. Laconia, Gilford and New Hampton need to be scheduled. Lisa wants to make sure we publicize the start of the grant.

Lisa is working on completing final Moose Plate grant invoice. Lisa wants to use future Moose Plate grant for a conservation land plan in the Winnisquam Watershed. Bob suggested speaking with Fish and Game to see if they have identified particular areas of concern for specific habitat. Ed mentioned coordinating with the Conservation Commissions in the Watershed. WMP plan identified that 42% of the remaining land in the Watershed is buildable. WWN needs to make sure that responsible building takes place. Lisa will circulate draft of Moose Grant application.

Aqualogic is back out on the lake this week doing milfoil harvesting. Lisa spoke with Dominic from Aqualogic asking that they give more advance notice when they will be on the water.

Ed will reach out to Lake Smart reference invoice for Lake Host and payment.

WWN Strategic Plan:

Lisa would like us to add education and training to the associations and private boat launches. Bob installed a Clean, Drain and Dry sign at Chapman Brook launch. Dean arranged for the same sign to be posted at Deer Park Association.

2.3, 3 & 4.2 have Lake Smart listed, Lisa suggested removing it from 2.3 & 3 and just keeping it in 4.2.

Discussion took place that we assure that what is in Watershed plan is in WWN strategic plan.

4. Change "Water Quality Usage" to "Water Quality Protection".

5.3 Change Legislative Relations to "Legislative Relations and Advocacy".

Discussion about working towards bringing the Winnisquam Watershed Conservation Commissions together.

Cindy and Lisa were invited to networking event at Castle in the Clouds, which brought several environmental organizations together. Hosted by Castle in the Clouds Preservations Committee. Goal is to bring organizations together to work collaboratively. Senator Jeb Bradley was in attendance.

Lisa and Judy discussed posting important information immediately to our website in the form of a blog. Tom will look at the website to see about moving our currently blog to the home page.

Add summer social to the community involvement section.

Dean suggested that we take advantage of the Belknap Mill for hosting educational environmental events. Dean believes there is a minimal fee.

Lisa asked that we add wildlife monitoring to the strategic plan.

Bob and Dean will work together to come up educational presentations.

Dean with others took part in building a rain garden near Jewett Brook in Tardiff Park, Winter Street, Laconia.

Lisa learned from conversations with NH Lakes and other organizations is that we need to do direct mailing when trying to recruit new members. We need to set a goal of mailing out the request by Spring 2023. Include a return envelope. The mailer needs to include a story of the lake and what it was like in the 60's and 70's that the lake was not as clean as it is now.

Lisa noted that our end of year message is approaching that we need to start working on it now. Lisa would like a board member to prepare it like Kath Keen did last year.

Dean and Lisa discussed Kezer Lake presentation at this year's Lake's Congress, stating that you could remove the name of the lake and that could arguably relate to any lake. Lisa noted the water buoy they both on the Kezer Lake, which senses the water temperature, oxygen level and the live time weather monitoring that many follow online. Lisa would like this on the strategic plan.

Lisa recalled a story how former DES employee Jody Connor a Winnisquam resident at the time discussed arrangements to have a local septic company put a porta john on a barge at the sandbar.

Lisa noted that we are close to surpassing \$100,000 in funds, is now the time to think about adding staffing. Lisa stressed the need for an executive director to assume some of the responsibilities she now takes care of. Cindy wants to be a program manager and not an administrator. The WWN's work and future opportunities are more than can be managed on a purely volunteer basis and most lake associations our size and smaller have professional staff. Shelly Carita and NH Lakes is willing to assist us with identifying our needs and the type of skillset to fill the position.

Discussion took place about a resident in Tilton who approached board members at the Summer Social asking if we would support a no wake zone, in the southern end of the lake near the rocky area. Board agreed only if it has to do with water quality issues, erosion etc.

Bob noted that he observed filamentous algae on the lake in his area. Judy will add a note to WWN website when DES issues alerts for cyanobacteria in Lake Winnisquam.

Next meeting, discussed skipping September, and having next meeting Monday, October 3, 2022, via zoom or in person for those that are still in the area.

3-days after the August board meeting WWN learned that the agreement for the 319 Grant was ready. Lisa shared the agreement with the board, who voted unanimously to accept it.

4-days after the board meeting we communicated via email that WWN would work with NH Lakes on an outreach program directed towards candidates for political office in NH to educate and discover where they stand on issues related to water quality in our lakes.