

Winnisquam Watershed Network

Board of Directors Meeting

August 31, 2020

Meeting Opened @ 5:10 PM (EST)

Meeting Adjourned @ 6:15 PM (EST)

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

Absent:

Welcome new members, Katherine Keen, Tom Camp and Chuck Mitchell. The board consists of at least one member from each of the 5 towns on the Lake.

All five towns have provided positive support to WWN each of the past 3 years. Chuck agreed to be the town rep to speak with Tilton Town Officials about funding. With the loss of Lynn Lowd the board is looking for someone to touch base with Belmont. Ed Stephenson has recently joined the Belmont ConComm and can take over this role.

Because of COVID 19, DES scaled back water testing this year. Tributary monitoring just wrapped up. DES agreed to pay for the first round of phosphorus testing (conducted at a private lab) and will test second round. Dean will start tributary monitoring as soon as snow melts in the spring of 2021, to see how much road salt affected the lake.

Dean reports that the Lake host program has been running Thursday to Sunday with constant boat traffic. They are starting to cut back on the host program hours. NH Lakes provided a \$1,200 grant and WWN pledged up to \$5,000 towards the program. We would like to see volunteer lake hosts for some of the days of the week not covered.

Jeff Marcoux with the State advised that a scheduled EPA program fell through, notified WWN that the funds are being redirected to solicit a contractor to develop a Watershed Management Plan for the Winnisquam watershed. Selected contractor will work with WWN on the effort. Will probably be a 1 – 2 year project. Completed WMP will qualify projects for funding under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. EPA wants a contractor hired by November 1, 2020. There are 3 contractors that have been used in the past. EPA funds go in 2 year cycles. Looking for Lakes Region planning commission to identify folks for steering committee. Lisa reached out to Opechee and Wicwas associations, as they are part of the watershed.

WWN applying for grant funds from the Moose Plate program for staffing assistance to help with public outreach for the WMP. There is a part time employee that might be interested, if not possibly an intern.

Belknap County Conservation District is restoring fish habitat on Black Brook in Sanbornton. Lots of sediment in Black Brook got a grant for an engineer to evaluate. Sand is running off dirt roads in the area, primarily Humes Road. We should include culvert work in our Moose Plate grant. Jerry Hicks

reports seeing more trout and smelt going up Collins Brook to spawn than years past. There is money available for stream restoration.

Lisa E applied for NH Charitable Foundation Grant for building operational organization. Purchase membership management software as a 501c3 nonprofit we should get a reduced rate through TechSoup. Tom Camp willing to assist. Tom works with software companies in Austin, Texas.

Discussion took place on strategic planning. Dean pointed out that the BCCD used Rick Demark to assist with their strategic planning sessions. Dean stated that the BCCD had 6 or 7 one hour meetings. Dean will speak with BCCD, it might be possible to look at their plan. Lisa and the board want to assure that we are not missing things. Jim said it is important to assure that WWN continues after we are no longer on the board. Should we spend all money collected or set some aside to use for growth. How much would it cost to hire an Executive Director to run WWN? Lakes Sunapee, Squam and Wentworth all got endowments many years ago to support lake management. Lake Winnispeaukee hired Pat Carper as their Executive Director. Pat got her master's degree from PSU. Pat was originally hired part time, now is full time. Chuck suggested that we send email to members we might find someone with skills in strategic planning.

If no one is interested Terry agreed to continue with merchandise sales.

Plaque dropped off at Winnsquam Marine. Request for follow up with Jays Marina.

Suggestion that monthly meetings start at 5:30 PM (EST) instead of 5:00 PM, continue with first Monday of the month. Next meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2020.

In closing, Lisa stressed that building the membership is important. With over 880 parcels on the Lake, we should be able to do that.