

Winnisquam Watershed Network

Board of Directors Meeting

November 9, 2020

Meeting Opened @ 5:30 PM (EST)

Meeting Adjourned @ 6:40 PM (EST)

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

No treasurers report this month.

Discussion centered around the Watershed Management Plan and \$80,000 EPA funding to implement the plan. EPA has contracted with consulting team and we can go ahead and announce it. All agreed that we need to maintain communications with representatives from all 5 towns, marinas, and membership with respect to issues we may face moving forward and steps we are taking.

Once the plan is completed it will make us eligible for Clean Water Act Section 319 Grant Funds. Goal is to have a draft within one year.

Lisa and Kath noted that the Meredith DPW cleared out most if not all of the vegetation from side of the roads. Often DPW Directors differ on what is best course of action. Lisa pointed out that the clearing of vegetation prevents various pollutants from entering the lake.

Discussion took place on developing a land preservation plan to identify key parcels of land that should be preserved from construction and development. One member suggested we include this in our strategic plan. It may be a recommendation of the watershed plan but is also something the WWN could start pursuing grants for. Lisa Morin pointed out that the Belknap Conservation Committee is careful about becoming land owners and what comes with that. Probably better to partner with organization such as Lakes Region Conservation Trust. Tom Camp suggested that the preservation plan should include ideas on how to benefit the watershed prior to any development of the Laconia School and State Park Property.

Lisa sent copy of press release draft, which she would like to get out to the members, local media and conservation committees.

Tom Camp presented a summary of donor management software to automate the WWN's donor and membership list. Tom discussed the pros and cons as well as the cost of various plans. Program selected should include allowing for storing membership and group information. Should have donation management and fund raising. Board agreed with Tom's recommendation that we go with Little Green Light, which is available at a nominal rate from TechSoup. Lisa suggested that Lisa, Ed and Tom meet to discuss implementation of the program further.

Discussion took place on strategic planning and do we get a facilitator. Do we have one long meeting or multiple shorter meetings? Possibly have multiple meetings in a short time frame. Strategic plan should have current assessment, long range 10-15 years goals with focus on next 5 years. Lisa sent the board a tentative outline/list of questions, asking that we get back to her in the next three weeks. Board thought January and February would be a good time to do this.

Prior to adjourning, board discussed the need to build on our membership, that there are more than 800 lake front properties.

Next BOD meeting is scheduled for December 7 at 5:30 pm EST.