Winnisquam Watershed Network Board of Directors Meeting January 8, 2018

5:58 pm Lisa Eggleston calls meeting to order. Phone in by: Terry, Tom, Frank, Ed, Cliff, Jim, Lisa, Tony, Dean and Judy.

<u>Logo Contest:</u> No design submissions as of this date. Submissions are due the end of January. Fallback positions suggested were to ask a web designer to prepare a logo (Cliff will do). Another option would be to ask Larry Frates to prepare one and pay him a fee (Dean will do).

Whistle Blower Policy: Lisa presented a draft, which was approved unanimously.

<u>Grant Opportunities:</u> Cliff has researched grants from Franklin Savings Bank, Citizens Bank, Bank of New Hampshire, and NH Charitable Foundation. The best approach would be to have a specific project for which we ask for funding (milfoil management, water quality monitoring and the equipment required, or prepare, print and mail a brochure). Cliff and Lisa will continue to investigate possibilities.

Milfoil Management: We are awaiting NHDES matching fee estimate for this year. Implementing the entire milfoil management plan this year will be difficult if WWN does not have sufficient funds to cover the cost before the State's reimbursement. The cost associated with hand pulling (DASH) needs to be in hand while the costs attributed to herbicides can be paid in increments. Tom will develop a suggested cashflow model for the two project components. Lisa has discussed the cash flow issue with Amy Smagula and has been told we can delay the milfoil work to September or later in the summer. This will allow WWN to assemble additional funds to pay for the project. Amy did not recommend delaying the work at Sunray shores too long in order that we not lose ground on the work that has already been done there.

Amy estimated that the total cost of addressing milfoil this year would be approximately \$31,000. The Town of Meredith has prepared a warrant article for \$12,000, Tilton has an estimated \$2,000 commitment, Belmont also estimated \$2,000 (hand pulling only) and Sanbornton has not commited funds. Laconia has not commited a specific amount (Dean will get clarification from Laconia Conservation Commission). Ed said Sunray Shores will cover the cost of divers (DASH) there. Dean will ask John Jude of Aqualogic (selected diver/DASH contractors) to see if there would be any economy of scale for doing all the diving on the lake. Tom estimated that WWN needed about \$12,000 more to complete the milfoil work identified by Amy. Lisa suggested that WWN may be able to get a bank line of credit to cover milfoil cash flow if we can demonstrate that the funding commitments are there.

<u>Water Quality Sampling:</u> The estimated cost of laboratory analyses for the 2018 summer is \$750. Dean will find out if Laconia Conservation Commission will cover the cost of analysis for the Pot Island sampling location. Lisa will talk with NHDES to see who has been paying for the water laboratory analyses in the past. Ed will get clarification from Belmont and Tom will talk with Tilton to see if the towns will cover the costs of sampling their sites.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> The WWN now has approximately \$5,600 in the bank. We received several year-end donations. Lisa thanked Jim and Terry for their generous donations.

Lisa brought up budgeting and asked the BOD how the WWN should prioritize expenditures of monies, e.g. do we want to put our available funds toward the milfoil program, invest in website development, marketing materials, monitoring equipment, D&O insurance, etc.

Jim said that he feels we should have <u>Directors' and Officers' Insurance and agreed to cover the cost of it. We were quoted approximately \$500.</u>

Lisa indicated that the water sampling equipment for both deep water and tributary sampling should be available to borrow, so WWN does not have to purchase the equipment just yet. Ed indicated that we do have one set of the VLAP monitoring equipment at present. We can add additional equipment to a "wish list" if people want to donate.

It was agreed that the priority for spending funds would be: milfoil management, water quality laboratory analyses, website design and mailing of information. Some of these may qualify for specific grants or donations, so we need to develop a description of the work/resources needed for each and an estimated cost. Lisa will do so for the milfoil and water quality analyses, Tom, Judy and Terry will do for website development, and Terry will do for a mailing.

<u>Fundraising:</u> Membership fees will not bring in sufficient funds to cover the funds needed to accomplish the projects the Board wants to accomplish so we need to develop fundraising activities. Terry and others will make contacts with local businesses to raise funds. The board also discussed getting the word out about our activities and fundraising to the general public.

<u>Publicity:</u> Lisa will prepare another press release for local papers following receipt of information about NHDES funding of milfoil management. This will be a way of keeping the WWN name in the public. Cliff suggested additional press releases when municipalities commit funds.

We need to assemble the email addresses of other people who live on or near the lake.

Chuck Mitchell of the Town of Tilton notified WWN that Anchorage Development was planning a large development project on the Lake (approx. 200 RV sites near Jay's Marina).. Only a conceptual plan has been submitted as of yet. WWN will not submit comments at this time but will notify its membership and the public of the project so that they can participate in the public hearing process. Lisa will post a description of the project on the WWN Facebook page

The next meeting is scheduled for February 5th at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46.

Respectfully submitted: Dean Anson II