

## WOLFEBORO WATERS COMMITTEE

June 13, 2023, at 1:00 pm

Wolfeboro Public Library

### ***DRAFT MINUTES***

#### **1) Call to order:**

Present: Linda Murray (Chair), Abigail Adams, Julie Brown (Wentworth Watershed Association), Brad Harriman (Board of Selectmen Rep), Richard Masse, Warren Muir, Libby Peard, Caleb (UNH Summer Research Intern).

#### **2) Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Discussion: What type of minutes does the Committee want?

**Chair Linda Murray made a motion to table Approval of 5/18/2023 Minutes until the next Wolfeboro Waters Committee [WWC] meeting on 7/11/2023, for a revision based on edits made by four committee members. Seconded by Rich Masse. Approved unanimously.**

#### **3) New Business:**

Recent sighting of cyanobacteria on Lake Wentworth. What should the protocol be, for coordination and distribution of information to residents, Town Departments, other Environment Organizations?

Introduction of summer research intern from UNH, Caleb. He will be helping with collection and testing of water samples. This could include PCR testing, which looks at the presence of cyanobacteria.

##### **Mitigation and Prevention:**

##### **i. Update: Wolfeboro Bay Watershed Management Plan**

- **Rich Masse** says he defers to Bree Rossiter for the Wolfeboro Back Bay Water Plan.
- **Warren Muir** suggests that a list of source streams be put together, to collect water samples. A culvert can be a good location for collection. This would be in addition to collecting water samples in the Back Bay. He suggests obtaining readings for drinking water and contacting Jim at the Treatment Plant. Also, to contact Bridget and Josh, who collect water samples for the Lakes Lay Monitoring Program [LLMP].
- **Chair L. Murray** suggests asking for the entire package of water sample data, for the sake of consistency.
- **W. Muir** said that Frank Marcoux, Lead Volunteer, could direct a group of local volunteers to collect water samples, specify locations, explain what to test for. Frank Marcoux will be back in town the week of June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- **Chair L. Murray** said that Jockey Cove has a culvert.
- **W. Muir** said that collecting water samples from culverts is a good way to test for phosphate content: ideally, volunteers would go out to collect right after a 1" to 2" rainfall.
- **Chair L. Murray** agreed that it's important to identify the various streams for sample collection.

- **W. Muir** said we need information for Smith River, Rust Pond, and Beaver Brook in Alton. The source of Beaver Brook is significant.
  - **Chair L. Murray** outlined locations for collection of water samples: 1) Jockey Cove culvert, 2) Carry Beach, 3) Smith River, 4) Dylan’s Cove, 5) Foss Field culvert, 6) 464 Sewall Road.
  - **W. Muir** suggested we get additional information from engineers.
  - **Chair L. Murray** pointed out that a watershed model is only as good as the data that informs it. She’ll talk to Jim about the Back Bay.
  - **W. Muir** concurred about the need to track more inputs for the model. He explained that dissolved phosphorous in the water can mitigate for the presence of lead. He wonders if there is a way mitigate for dissolved phosphorous?
  - Collection of water samples from fire hydrants: **B. Harriman** said that hydrants are flushed twice a year. Town hydrants have already been flushed recently.
  - **Chair L. Murray** asked where Rick Van de Poll is collecting water samples?
  - **W. Muir** said Rick is studying the locations of various stream areas to be “naturalized.”
  - **Chair L. Murray** said that she could invite Rick Van de Poll to a future WWC meeting.
- ii. **Shorefront Residential District:** Update Panning Board timeline.
- **R. Masse** said he discussed the WWC’s updates for the Shorefront Residential District Regulations with the Planning Board at their meeting on 5/16/2023. He has a concern that the Planning Board agenda for 6/20/2023 is very crowded.
  - **Chair L. Murray** said that Chair K. Barnard has scheduled a review of the Shorefront Regulations at the Planning Board hearing on 7/18/2023.
  - **R. Masse** said he has a concern about the current regulation limiting to 30% of the impervious surface on a lot. If a lot’s impervious surface is already at more than 30%, what should be done? Should a Variance be required?
- iii. The Town’s process for the protection of surface waters by enforcement and application of the Towns’ Storm Water Regulations and Shoreline Protection Regulations for building projects.
- iv. **Report on Hunters Lot:**
- **R. Masse** has a few concerns:
    - 1) To date, there is no stormwater treatment indicated for the new roof structure of the new Hunter’s building, which has a footprint of approximately 15,600 SF [as shown at Planning Board meeting on 5/16/2023].
    - 2) R. Masse hasn’t been able to connect with the engineer of the new site design of the Hunter’s and Walgreen’s Lots.
    - 3) Will the design and maintenance of the proposed speed bump at the main driveway entrance be adequate to redirect stormwater runoff from the entire parking area, including the Walgreen’s parking and the rooftop of the new Hunter’s building?
- v. **Questions to Ask about Projects (final draft for review):** The document will be sent to BOS as informational and then to all Department Heads, if agreed to by BOS.  
**Reviewed by BOS on 6-7-2023. Needs to be sent to Department Heads.**

- vi. **Albee Beach:**
  - Phase I completed.
  - Phase II?
  
- b. **Assessing Subcommittee:**
  - i. **Report: On the last meeting**
  - ii. **Intern: update**
    - **W. Muir** said that Caleb will do PCR work to detect presence of cyanobacteria. The Lakes Management and Protection Program [LMPP] needs sample collection for Rust Pond and Mirror Lake.
    - **Libby Peard** said that she has contacts in that area.
    - **W. Muir** suggests that UNH and Bigelow Laboratory have more linkage. For example, there exists already a group of frozen water samples that could be tested. Most cyanobacteria are phosphorous-limited. We could test for total phosphorous, dissolved phosphorous, total nitrogen and dissolved nitrogen. For streams, we're set up to do two types of sediment sampling.
  - iii. **Discussion of Tucker Pond - NH Lake Congress**
  - iv. **Discussion of Dissolved Phosphorous and possible treatments:**
    - **W. Muir** said there's a need to research and develop a strategy for controlling Dissolved Phosphorous.
    - **Chair L. Murray** said that the Request for Qualifications [RFQ] has not yet been sent out by the Town. The RFQ is for an Environmental Engineering consultant firm to look at three areas: 1) Port Wedeln Road, 2) Whitegate Road, 3) Albee Beach. **The Environmental Engineering consultant firm should have areas of knowledge about Dissolved Phosphorous.**
  
- c. **Communication Subcommittee:**
  - i. **Update:** Facebook website
  - ii. **Summer**
  
- d. **Rust Pond - North Inlet Tributary Hydrology Evaluation by Comprehensive Environmental Inc.**
  - i. **Update:** The Selectman approved the \$23,000 for the 319-grant match at its December 2022 meeting - Tavis
  - ii. **Report:** R. Masse said he thinks of this is an "overlay project," similar to a designation of an overlay zone upon a base zone.
  
- e. **Whitegate Road - Stormwater issues**
  - i. **Update:**
    - Chair L. Murray said there is a concern about a sewer line, located near Carry Beach, which drains into Jockey Cove. Some residents along Carry Beach are testing for E.coli bacteria.
    - Julie Brown suggests collecting and testing around Huggins Hospital; however, access to the tributaries on hospital property would require the hospital's permission.

- Chair L. Murray said that the NH Dept of Transportation [DOT] will be meeting about Huggins Hospital and the drainage issues from Route 28.

**f. 319 Grant Phases:**

- i. **Wentworth Watershed** Did not receive the grant in 2023, will reapply for 2024.
- ii. 319 Grant for Phase 5 of the Wentworth-Crescent Lake Management Plan future match is between \$15,000 and \$20,000.
- iii. **How to decide which project goes first?**

**g. 2023 Warrant Articles:**

- i. **Article 13 for \$1 million Passed:** Forest Road and Varney Road, for a low-pressure sewer line and owners will be required to install their own infrastructure to utilize the system (septic tank and pumps)- **out to bid**
- ii. **Article 19 Passed:** Green Street upgrade will address drainage along with water, sewer, and road upgrade for \$530,000. **Start in the fall.**
- iii. **Article 31 passed:** Water Quality non-capital capital reserve funding for \$100,000.

**h. Public Safety Building - Article 11 passed.** The plan for drainage is attached. **The Project will be going before the Planning Board on June 20.**

**i. Prior Years Projects**

- i. **Port Wedeln drainage project:** It is my understanding that this project has a tank prior to the beach outlet to slow the water down. Stantec Engineers are working on this project. They are to be informed that Wolfboro Waters is concerned about the direct outlet to Lake Winnepesaukee. **This project is on hold until an upgraded design is completed and will require a 2024 Warrant Article for additional funds.**
- ii. **Route 28 South DOT project:** The Committee needs to monitor the drainage for this project. The BOS signed an agreement with Huggins Hospital for salt storage at the Public Safety Building instead of on Huggins Hospital property. In that agreement, Huggins agrees to provide an easement to the Town and NHDOT for a potential stormwater treatment system to treat stormwater from Town and State rights-of-way, to be defined at a later date. NHDOT met with Huggins Hospital to discuss the use of some of their land for drainage. The drainage plan is starting to be worked on. **The Rt. 28 Steering Committee is meeting on June 29 at 2:00 in the Town Hall Great Hall.**

**j. A Plan for storm drain stenciling:** Put labels on the Town’s storm drains to educate the public that drains take pollutants directly into our waters. **Approved by BOS. No update.**

**k. Road Salt used on Road:** Continue looking at salt use on roads and how it relates to water quality and then use best management practices as they evolve.

**l. Dockside Parking Lot drainage** - on hold. There is an issue with a broken drainage pipe.

**m. 2022 Budget for the Wolfboro Waters Committee:**

- i. **2023 Budget request- BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING DATE 12/20/2022 AT 6:30**

	<b>Spent 4/2023</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
Assessing		\$17,000	\$12,000

Testing	\$6,000		
Bigelow labs	\$5000		
Intern	\$6000	\$5,000	
Communication			\$2,000
Handouts		\$	\$1,000
Water Summit	\$1,000		
Mitigation and Prevention			\$2,500

**Wolfeboro Waters Committee 2023 Budget request is \$21,500.**

**4) Other Business:**

The Board of Selectmen approved hiring an **Environmental Engineering Consultant Firm** for a second set of eyes on the Port Wedeln project, Whitegate Road project, and the Route 28 project.

**Communication Chain Protocol re: a recent sighting of cyanobacteria on Lake Wentworth**

- Julie Brown said she got phone calls re: two sick dogs and one sick cat, possibly due to drinking the lake water. She took a field sample and was able to view bacteria from her microscope. She called the NH Dept of Environmental Services [DES].
- Chair L. Murray suggested a Communication Chain Protocol for coordination and distribution of information to residents, Town Departments, other Environmental Organizations.
- Brown said a Communication Chain Protocol would help guide everyone about whom to tell what and when.
- Abby Adams asked if DES could give the Town an answer?
- W. Muir said that, to his knowledge, DES has not used toxins as a basis for their alerts. He suggested using test strips for lake water.

**5) Next meeting:** WWC will meet on Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm (exact location TBD).

**6) Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn meeting made by Chair L. Murray. Seconded by Julie Brown. Approved unanimously.

**Master Plan Goals:**

1. Support increased oversight and coordination of stormwater management based on the increased number of these projects. **One on the horizon: Dockside Parking Lot.**
2. Put labels on the Town’s storm drains to educate the public that they take pollutants directly into our waters.
3. Continue looking at salt use on roads and how it relates to water quality and then use best management practices as they evolve.
4. The Town must continue to work with State and regional groups that help steward, manage, and protect water resources.
5. Support existing watershed planning efforts on Lake Wentworth, Crescent Lake, Rust Pond, Mirror Lake, Wolfeboro Bay, and Winter Harbor and develop plans for the watershed that are not presently under study.