

Town of Wolfeboro
Wolfeboro Waters
Assessment Subcommittee Meeting
July 26, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Present: Beth Marcoux, Emilie Clark, Abby Adams, Warren Muir
Absent: Andra Dekkers, Linda Murray

Warren called the meeting to order at 1:04pm

Minutes of June 28, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved with edits.

2020 Summary Report – Warren will make minor edits in the 2020 Summary Report and present it to Board of Selectmen in September.

Working with Lake Associations – Warren received comments from Lawrence Gil (Mirror Lake Protective Association) and Julie Brown (Wentworth Watershed Association) on the 2020 Summary report, requesting that past samplers be acknowledged as well. Warren added that information to the report. Both Larry Gil and Julie Brown indicated an interest in the work being done with Bigelow labs. In addition to data from the UNH studies, there are data related to sampling of streams. Larry Gil provided data from 2021 that was analyzed by NHDES and collected by Don Kretchmer who was hired to sample in Mirror Lake during the off seasons. Warren included it as new appendix for Mirror Lake. The subcommittee discussed the need to have data from lakes and streams available and shared by all associations to make the best assessment of risks to water quality in the area. The subcommittee discussed ways to best interact with lake associations. It was decided that small groups from the subcommittee would meet with members from separate associations. Emilie and Warren will meet with members from Lake Wentworth Watershed Association, Andra and Warren will meet with members from the Mirror Lake Protective Association, and Beth and Warren will meet with Keith Simpson from the Rust Pond Association.

Status of Thermocycler/PCR and e-DNA analyses Pipettors and tips have arrived however we are still waiting for primers and probes from Bigelow. We do not have a contract or grant with them for this year; however, money has been set aside for this. Volunteers have collected numerous samples and we will be able to run PCR tests once the primers and probes are delivered.

Sediment Sampling – Warren and Beth had a video call with Mike Lomas and Peter Countway regarding sediment sampling. It was concluded that there is not a lot of quick real time association with sediment sampling. Sediment has a lot of P in it. Measurements that you get from core samples vary considerably. It was decided to collect sediment samples at the three sites in WH and Carry Beach a couple times this summer. These samples, in addition to samples collected in 2018 and 2020, will provide 3 data points over 4 years. Warren stated it would be

good to get a core sample from each of our other lakes to be sure they are not wildly different. Warren recommended encouraging our counterparts in other lakes associations to do core sampling for Mike Lomas to analyze. It was determined there is no need to use Benthic flux chambers for sediment sampling. Warren also recommends filtering water samples from run off in streams during significant storms. In addition to getting total P in the stream water, filtering it would allow us to determine how much is dissolved versus particulate phosphorus. This is important because it may help us figure out strategies to remove P from run off.

Status of the Shoreline Observational Survey -- A one page observational survey was posted on the Wolfeboro Waters website and advertised during the lake appreciation events. Several problems with the survey were identified (difficulty entering phone numbers and inability to check more than one option on one item). A larger issue is that due to the loss of the IT person who uploaded the survey, we can't get access to the data until a new IT person has been hired by the town.

Status of the boat wake impact pilot study. Abby reported that 3 people are participating in this pilot project with sampling initiated in early July. They measured turbidity and P levels. A second sample is being done this week and 2 more after that. All is going well so far.

Status of determining the priorities for mitigation in Winter Harbor Pat Tarpey is taking lead and convening a meeting to discuss this. 319 grant money is available, and applications need to be in by October.

Quick informational items:

- a. Carry Beach Debris – Someone contacted town about leaves and debris on bottom of lake that is not typically there and asked if they could remove it. Warren didn't know whether or not permission to remove it was given.
- b. Impact of boats mooring at Carry Beach – A homeowner complained about boats mooring at Carry Beach. Warren indicated to the homeowner that water quality samples are being taken in that area and that it might be more beneficial if the homeowner documented which boats were moored, how long they moored, what activities were taking place and that photos would be helpful.
- c. Rust Pond reported an oil spill/suspected cyanobacteria bloom – A report was called into the FD who responded it was a cyanobacteria bloom. The following day Keith Simpson looked at it and is certain it's not a cyanobacteria bloom but is normal foaming crude that happens at NW corner of Rust Pond following heavy rains.

On Thurs Aug 12 at 2pm Warren will provide instruction to anyone interested in learning to use a tow sampler, fluorometer, grab sampler, and others. Abby indicated she is not available but would like instruction in the fall.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03pm.