

1/9/23

## Wolfeboro Waters Committee Minutes

**Present:** Julie Brown(Executive Director of WWA),Rich Masse, Warren Muir, Linda Murray(Selectman and Chair), Bree Rossiter(Conservation Manager LWA), Art Slocum, Kathy Barnard, Beth Marcoux, Abby Adams

Meeting was called to order by Linda Murray at 1:04 pm

1.Minutes of the 12/12/22 meeting were approved.

**2.Mitigation and Prevention subcommittee report:** Bree and Rich reported that the final name of the Wolfeboro Bay Study/Plan will be the **Wolfeboro Bay Watershed Plan.**

A contract with FB Environmental is underway. Once approved by the Wolfeboro Town Manager, the Steering Committee will be selected.

**3. Assessment subcommittee report:** The presentation to the BOS went well. They understand what we have accomplished in terms of assessment. Members of the subcommittee have completed further training at Bigelow Labs for performance of PCR analysis of water samples in order to identify cyanobacteria. The Citizen Science lab was relocated to Andra's home for the winter. Plans are being made to hire a Summer Intern.

**4. Communications subcommittee report:** The Face Book page is growing and has almost 300 followers. The Fall E-Newsletter was well received. The Selectman received a copy of the newsletter and referenced an article on salt in a recent discussion.

**5.Rust Pond-North Inlet tributary Hydrology Eval by Comprehensive Environmental Inc.**

The 319 grant has been approved

The Selectman approved the \$23,000 for the 319 grant match at its 12/22 meeting.

**6. Whitegate Lane Stormwater issues:** Warren Muir met with Linda Murray, Steve Randall (Director of Public Works),Jim Pineo(Town Manager),Bree Rossiter and Pat Tarpey (LWA) about the huge washout that occurred at Whitegate Lane at the end of December(the Elliot Storm). The current drainage setup was not effective and has to be re-evaluated. An enormous amount of stormwater went directly into the lake carrying sediment(phosphorus) and dissolved phosphorus.

Linda Murray reported that the Warrant Article for Water Quality was increased to \$100,00 to assist with the correction of stormwater at various sites.

**7. Albee Beach washout occurred in December:** Rich Masse has communicated with Steve Randall. Rich noted that we need to discuss what is the process for communicating Wolfeboro Water's concerns about correcting current washouts and preventing further ones.

*Further discussion on this is described below.*

**8. Wolfeboro Water's Role:** We are appointed by the BOS as advocates for the quality of our surface waters. Discussion followed about our role and what are the processes we should put in place to fulfill this role.

\*Julie Brown suggested that a WW representative from each Watershed meet with Steve Randall at Dept of Public Works in order to be proactive about what are our concerns.

\*Linda Murray mentioned that we really need to communicate with the new Town of Wolfeboro Engineer who is being hired as the engineer will have the knowledge base to look at our concerns, watershed plans and mitigation strategies.

\*Julie Brown suggested that she and Bree Rossiter develop a list of 10 questions that we want addressed in any design set forth to decrease stormwater runoff.

\*Art Slocum stated we need to say plainly that we do not want stormwater to run into the lake.

**Process:** After discussion, we settled on a process which we will follow for the immediate action needed for the Albee Beach washout.

\*Rich and Julie will draft a letter to Town Manager, Jim Pineo, and Director of Public Works, Steve Randall that explains our concerns and suggestions. We note that we advise that an engineer consult on this. Julie notes that Wentworth Watershed Assn has worked with one and it has gone well. She will give this name to the Town Manager.

\*Linda will review the letter and send to WW members to review and comment on.

\*The final letter will go to the Town Manager and if he approves, it will be put on the agenda for the Board of Selectmen meeting.

**9. Port Wedeln Project:** The project has potential significant problems but plans are still in the "conceptual phase." Suggestions included:

a. discuss the Stantec engineering plan with a volunteer engineer (Steve Towne) who we will ask to advise WW.

b. set up a meeting with Steve Randall (Public Works) and Stantec engineers to review the plan and to address our "Ten Questions" (see #8).

This project will not proceed until reviewed by DES who is partially funding the project.

**10.Drainage for the New Public Safety Building.** This is a commercial building and should be protected by the enforcement and application of the Town's Storm Water Regulations and Shoreline Protection Regulations for building projects. WW should be monitoring this to note any variances that are suggested.

**11. The Route 28 South DOT project.** Julie Brown and Libby Peard walked the area and saw several issues: Julie reported that their field trip started at the wetlands and the bridge along Cross Road. The color of the water there was concerning and there was lots of sedimentation on the "swale" on the north side of Cross Road coming off of S. Main.

All the water drains from the peak at the high school down both sides of the road and is diverted under the road through undersized and sometimes crushed culverts directly into these wetlands. Past Cross Road, the stormwater, sediment and salt travel down both sides of the road and are diverted through culverts into Rust Pond. There are no drain traps. This summer DOT removed a vegetated swale on the East side of S. Main and replaced it with rip rap by DOT, which is now serving as a runway for stormwater. The sedimentation going into and blowing past the drains is extensive. Photographs were taken of the entire drainage area and have been brought to the committee. These highlight the concern about this ad hoc road maintenance installations that have been happening in town. There is need for the town to have conversation with DOT about our concern for how they handle storm water, including the modifications of the swale as described above and others in town. The same type of installation was also installed this summer along Center Street, north of Fernald Basin and again up the road along the East Side of Center Street across the road from Saka (Hodge Road). It was too dangerous to be on that road to capture photographs, but this area is a concern for the water quality in Lake Wentworth.

**12. Christian Ridge run off area.**

The BOS has an agreement with Huggins Hospital to provide an easement to the Town and NHDOT for a stormwater treatment system.

Julie and Rich will attempt to get pre-treatment water samples from Crescent Lake AFTER Kathy Barnard obtains permission from the Hospital to take them from the shore.

**13. Warrant Articles on March ballot:** (need to communicate these to the public)

1. Sewer line extension for Varney road and Forest road for \$800,000-\$1,000,000 and will be bonded.

2. Green Street upgrade will address drainage along with water, sewer and road upgrade for \$530,000
3. Water Quality and Non-capital Reserve Funding has been increased from \$25,000 to \$100,000 to address stormwater washout of Whitegate Road.