

Wolfeboro Waters Full Committee
1pm- Wednesday, February 21, 2024
Wolfeboro Town Hall
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

Call to Order

- Linda called the meeting to order at 1:00pm
- **Present:** Linda Murray, Brad Harriman, Art Slocum, Rich Masse, Julie Brown, Libby Peard, Paul O'Brien, Beth Marcoux, Andra Dekkers, Bree Rossiter
- **Absent:** Kathy Barnard, Abby Adams, Mary DeVries, Warren Muir, Dana Huff

Approval of Minutes

- Rich, Libby and Bree proposed minor grammatical error edits, Julie motioned to approve the 1/9/2024 minutes and accept with changes, Libby seconded.
- Art motioned to approve the 1/28/2024 meeting minutes and Julie seconded, Brad abstained.

Bridge Falls Landing Project

- Linda noted that there are no updates as the project has not moved forward. Brad agreed and noted that this has not come before the planning board. Rich noted that the next steps may be for it to go before the ZBA.

Wolfeboro Bay Management Plan

- The committee discussed edits to the proposed letter to LWA that identifies the projects that Wolfeboro Waters believes should be prioritized for site design within the Wolfeboro Bay Watershed Management Plan (WMP). Note that Wolfeboro Waters is only ranking sites in Wolfeboro, prioritizing those that have a direct impact on Wolfeboro Bay.
- Bree opened with questions/comments from LWA about the first draft letter. Bree asked the committee to consider if the first 3 sites identified in the letter are ones that we want design for. Bree noted that HW-1 (Town Docks) may involve quite a bit of work and if included, Horsley Whitten (contractor) may not be able to complete designs for the other two.

- Bree asked if the last three sites in the draft letter were included to let us know that these projects have been completed or that work is underway, Linda said yes.
- Linda noted that the town docks and boat ramp is one of the next projects that the town will be focusing on in addition to the Smith R. bridge and parking lot while the Main Street drainage project is not going to be started soon, maybe within the next year or two, most likely 2026 or 2027 at the earliest.
- Julie asked if it makes sense to have the Town Docks project as a conceptual design if the town is already focused on completing it. Linda said that it is worth it to have the conceptual designs done for the project to be a guide for the town, Brad agreed.
- Paul said that the dock committee planned to find a drainage solution and a storage solution for that entire area, but that there is a need to know what we are dealing with and asked about water quality.
- Rich noted that this discussion pertains to the goal of providing three conceptual projects as suggestions for the plan. After the projects are identified and concept designs available, is NHDES expecting that the Town (or applicant) would come back to them to facilitate the project. Rich asked if LWA would be able to handle the scope for this project.
- Bree responded by providing an example of a project that LWA partnered with the Town of Moultonborough to complete. Although States Landing had a massive scope with multiple considerations and phases such as dredging and road maintenance, we assisted in the addition of two rain gardens to help filter stormwater runoff before it enters Moultonborough Bay. The project was identified in the Moultonborough Bay Management plan. Bree noted that because the Town is already working towards moving this project forward it could be something that we could potentially help with, would need to discuss with Pat and the board.
- Brad said that he was very familiar with the States Landing project, and noted the differences between the two. States Landing had the space to be able to build the rain gardens. The town docks area is challenging to add infiltration to because of the historical material (railroad ties etc.) that are on the lot. A sealed containment system, similar to the Jellyfish at the Public Safety Building or the tanks at Port Wedeln may be an option. Having the conceptual design gives the engineers some guidelines of what our goals and expectations would be. Brad noted that it would be fairly easy to determine what contaminants we are dealing with knowing the area is an impervious

surface with cars, delivery trucks and other known contaminants. Brad also noted that the conceptual plan could help acquire grant funding.

- Julie was concerned about having the concept designs done but not being able to move forward as this is something she has experienced in the past. Linda said that this project is part of the Capital Improvement Plan so she expects this to move forward.
- The Foss Field and Main Street project identified in the first draft of the letter was discussed. Linda noted that neither of these projects are on the towns radar anytime soon.
- Paul asked when the drainage area on Foss field was installed if there were nutrient loads quantified. Linda said the swale has been there for years. Bree said that they were most likely not quantified as this is an additional step that often needs to be asked to be done and could be at an additional cost.
- The committee discussed the watershed management plan process and in response to Paul, that nutrient loading estimates are calculated for each project identified in the plan which is why we are discussing priority of the projects that are highlighted in the plan of having the highest impact.
- Art asked why sediment loading estimates were not included for the projects in the provided report from FB? Bree thought that they were and will check with FB to confirm.
- If the Town does the Town Docks there may not be funding for other two. Committee discussed and agreed to cut the Foss Field and Main Street project and add in the Back Bay Boat ramp project if there are funds available as this would not be as expensive but still have a significant impact.
- **I emailed Christine from FB and she said that they have sediment loading estimates for 55 projects. She asked if I would like them included in the final plan. I said yes. If there are follow up questions as to why there are only 55 projects with sediment estimates when there are approx. 99(?) projects identified, we can bring this up for discussion during the next advisory committee meeting.**
- Linda noted that if we had to cut one project she recommends Foss Field as this is not on the Towns radar.
- The committee discussed the need for conceptual designs and which projects to send in the letter to the BOS.
- Bree highlighted that if we do the Town Docks there may not be funding for other two. Committee discussed and agreed to cut the Foss Field and Main Street project and add

in the Back Bay Boat ramp project if there are funds available as this would not be as expensive but still have a significant impact.

- The committee unanimously agreed to add the Back Bay Boat Ramp (HW-7) as the second project for conceptual design prioritization in the letter being sent to the LWA to share with FB Environmental and the Wolfeboro BOS.

Mitigation and Prevention

- Rich shared a spreadsheet that he created that will be used to help make recommendations on how we decide what projects to prioritize for the non-capital reserve fund, and said that this is not intended to be a substitute for our own judgement, to be used as a guide.
- Rich noted that there is a fair amount of work that is needed going forward to capture the various projects and issues that we would like to evaluate. He said that we need to think about how the work is going to get done and that this spreadsheet can help facilitate that. Rich noted that there will be required maintenance for the spreadsheet and that will need to be addressed. Rich asked the committee to consider the following;
 - Is it an appropriate category to include?
 - Are we likely to have that info available for each project?
 - Are we weighting each category properly?
- Julie noted that for the Wolfeboro Bay WMP there have been projects identified, as well as those within the Wentworth-Crescent Plan, or other smaller waterbodies like Rust Pond that may need funding for planning. This spreadsheet will help us determine where to allocate funds, but also if we have a specific criterion for grant funding we can easily see which projects would be applicable.
- The Committee began discussion on the spreadsheet categories.
- Paul noted that he sees this as a candidate worksheet and that we need to add data. Bree said that the TN, TP and TSS columns show the estimated loads associated with each project as identified in the WMPs.
- Impacted Waterbody
 - Beth noted that if we are going to weight the waterbodies, economically speaking, Winni should be heavier weighted.

- Rich said that we could add drainage area, but that information is not readily accessible for each project and it is not typically part of what we have seen in these plans.
- Julie said that although we have drainage calcs for each of the subwatersheds we can't weight just based on acreage. We need to figure out how to share funds with other waterbodies which is the purpose of this spreadsheet
- The committee decided to include the impacted waterbody column, but not include it in the weighted decision-making process. It will be useful to have it as a filter.
- The committee decided that they are ok with impairment type, site access, distance to the waterbody and impact categories.
- The committee decided to remove engineering plans and change the status column instead. We will need to create subcategories within the status column.
- Rich brought up that in the document, Total Phosphorus (TP) and Total Nitrogen (TN) are weighted the same and asked for discussion. Bree noted that although Phosphorus is still the limiting nutrient for freshwater lakes, research on the ratio of Nitrogen to Phosphorus is becoming more important.
- Consensus among the committee to weight TP greater than TN.
- The committee discussed if there was a way to organize the list for projects that do not have nutrient loading estimates. For example, Rust Pond may not have nutrient loads associated with the projects in their plan and they should not be negatively impacted by not having those calculations because they do not have the same resources as others such as Wentworth and LWA.
- Rich noted that the plan will be used for tracking purposes and as a tool.
- Art asked about the assigned priority column and if it was subjective? Rich said no because that info is directly from the WMPs.
- The committee agreed on changing the heading name of the status to WMP Assigned priority.
- The committee discussed award history/cost/available funds and decided that although it is important to have within the spreadsheet it does not need to be weighted.
- Rich and Julie discussed the reason for adding those columns in is because after talking with Jeff Marcoux at NHDES these are the types of things that they consider when picking projects for grant funding.

Library Landscaping Project

- This will be a 2025 CIP project (parking lot/drainage to fix the infiltration basin)

319 Grants

- Wentworth did not receive the 319 grant they applied for.

Route 28 Project

- Linda has been asking what the solution is for this project, are they going to install roundabouts or a different concept? Has not received a clear response. The project has hit a standstill because there are some issues with electric lines. It is a work in progress.

Public Safety Building

- Moving right along, no updates.

Road Salt

- Linda introduced this topic and would like to bring in folks to have a bigger discussion. Steve Randall (Wolfeboro DPW) has reduced salt by 40%. Brad noted that in years' past the town pre-salted before the storm and Steve has stopped that practice. There was discussion to move forward with the GreenSnoPro Program and perhaps work on trying to partner with NHDOT more.
- Julie noted that she had sent in photos of the Wakefield/Rt.16 area where there were piles of salt. Brad said that morning we had a flash freeze and the state always immediately salts. When that happens and the salt doesn't brine that is what was shown in the photos. Julie noted that was not the only time this has happened and that she will continue to communicate and address the issue.

Plan for Storm Stenciling

- Linda said that the blue paint in 2023 was not the right color, did not show up. Bree mentioned that white may be best, and that Laconia did it in white a few years back.

Committee Reports

- Libby said that the latest Wolfeboro Waters newsletter was really well received. They are going to try to focus on information relevant to Wolfeboro and not just repurposing other educational articles.

Proposed Budget

- No discussion, just to show how much we spent last year.

Other Business

- Bree mentioned that HB1390, 500 ft. wakesurfing setback bill is being heard by the House of Rep. committee on March 6th, we will be sending out an informational email on how to support this bill and why we are.
- Bree noted that LWA is working on planning a lakewide cleanup event for the end of April and that we would like to partner with the Towns and WW to do so. Julie noted that she is participating in a May cleanup with GALA. Bree noted that we would like to get as many participants involved as possible and will provide updates as we move forward.

Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, March 18 at 1pm (Location TBD)

Adjournment

- I have no idea who made a motion to adjourn and who seconded or at what time.