

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

Location: Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Auburn, Maine

Time: Meeting began at 3:30 PM

Recording: There was a video recording of this meeting. It will be placed on the Great Falls TV website for viewing.

Commissioners Present: Steve French, Joe Grube, Dick Thibodeau, John Bonneau, Alicia Rea, Tizz Crowley, Dave Jones, Amy Landry

Commissioners Absent: Bethel Shields

Others Present: Lynne Richard, LAWPC Education and OutReach Coordinator, Kevin Gagne, LAWPC Clerk, Michael Broadbent LAWPC Secretary, Sid Hazelton, LAWPC Clerk and Heather Hunter, LAWPC Financial Officer.

Commissioner Grube called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

Commissioner Grube introduced Alecia Rae, City of Lewiston Ward 3 Councilor who was recently appointed to the Watershed Protection Commission to replace Michael Lachance.

Agenda Item 4: Gloeotrichia Project Presentation – Holly Ewing, Bates College

Holly gave a presentation summarizing the research Bates College has been conducting on Gloeotrichia in Lake Auburn.

Vote 1– Motion by Commissioner Thibodeau and seconded by Commissioner Bonneau to move agenda Item 10, Open Session out of order.

Passed 8-0

Agenda Item 10: Open Session

Julia Jozwiak, President of the Little Wilson Pond Improvement Association was present to present Lynne Richard with a plaque and a Certificate of Appreciation for her work with the Association over the years.

Agenda Item 1: Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 11, 2017

Vote 2– Motion by Commissioner Crowley and seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the minutes as presented.

Passed 8-0

Commissioner Grube raised the discussion of Election of Officers. It has been a couple of years since there has been an election of officers. Commissioner Grube would like to step down as Chair.

Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Crowley to nominate John Bonneau as Chair, Joe Grube as Vice Chair, Heather Hunter as Treasurer and Mike Broadbent as Secretary. The vote was tabled so that it will show up as an agenda item at the next Commission meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Quarterly Financial Update – Heather Hunter

Heather handed out the quarterly financial update. This is typically a slow time of year and there was little to report on. There will be some additional draw downs for the 319 Grant. There was some reimbursement to the Auburn Water District for costs incurred through the Androscoggin Soil and Water Conservation Commission and Lynne's labor for 319 Grant work. The last expense the Commission needs to cover is for the work Heather did on the 319 Grant. There was a line item amount in the 319 Grant budget for Financial Services and Heather managed the finances during the project. Heather gave the Commissioners two options: reimburse the City of Lewiston for her time, or pay her directly and offset the annual stipend she receives for the financial work done for the Commission.

Vote 3– Motion by Commissioner Crowley and seconded by Commissioner Jones to pay the City of Lewiston \$1,760 for Heather's work on the 319 Grant.

Passed 8-0

Vote 4– Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Landry to accept the Quarterly Financial Update.

Passed 8-0

Agenda Item 3: 2017 Audit Report – Heather Hunter

Heather went over the completed 2017 Audit prepared by Runyon Kersteen Ouellette. Heather directed the Commissioners to review the document. There were no issues found during the audit.

Vote 5– Motion by Commissioner Jones and seconded by Commissioner Landry to accept the 2017 Audit.

Passed 8-0

Agenda Item 5: Water Quality Update and Activity Report – Sid Hazelton

Sid reported that Dr. Steve Norton will be at the June Commission meeting to report on the analysis of the deep core sediment samples collected in Lake Auburn. Sid reported that staff continues to work on the Townsend Brook Phosphorus Study. Sampling and a drone fly over are scheduled for this Spring. Tributary sampling has already begun despite the fact that there is currently 18” of ice on the lake. Sid reported that the Commission has received the renewed Algaecide Discharge Permit for Copper Sulfate in Lake Auburn. The Outlet dam has been lowered to release water from the lake.

Agenda Item 6: Education and Outreach Update– Lynne Richard

Lynne presented a 319 Grant presentation showing the Commissioners the work that was completed with the funds.

Lynne also presented a final Education and Outreach Report to the Commissioners as she gave her notice of retirement effective May 18, 2018.

Agenda Item 7: Watershed Manager Search - Sid Hazelton

Sid reported that we have re-organized the structure and responsibilities of the Water Quality Manager. A new position, Watershed Manager, was developed. This position will focus on all aspects from the Watershed to the intake pipe in the lake. Sid reported that the search is underway for the new Watershed Manager. We received 23 applications for the position and have narrowed it down to 3 candidates. We hope to have the position filled before the end of May.

Agenda Item 8: Watershed Warden - Sid Hazelton

Sid reported that communication has been started with the Auburn Police Department to develop a Watershed Warden Position.

Agenda Item 9: Ag Zone Study

Sid reported that the City of Auburn has undertaken an Ag Zone Study. This study is looking at the current uses within the City’s Ag Zone. Sid has been attending all of the meetings to make sure that the Watershed of Lake Auburn remains protected.

Agenda Item 10: Open Session

Tizz Crowley would like to open the following items up for discussion at future meetings.

1. Currently, there are no plans to open outlet beach. Tizz would like to ask the question, Is there anything we can do to improve the water quality in this area of Lake Auburn.
2. Tizz would also like to re-visit the current uses of Whitman Spring Road and ensure that we are following all of the appropriate ordinances that are in place.
3. Tizz would like to develop a policy that when a meeting is cancelled, the rescheduled meeting date and time are provided.
4. Tizz would like to develop a policy to allow Commissioners to add agenda items for future meetings.
5. Tizz would also like opportunities for Commissioners to comment during open session.

Vote 6– Motion by Commissioner Bonneau and seconded by Commissioner Landry to adjourn the meeting.

Passed 8-0

A true record, attest;



Michael Broadbent

Secretary of the LAWPC