

Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 22, 2019

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

Time: Meeting began at 10:00 AM

Recording: The meeting was videoed.

Commissioners Present: Alicia Rea, John Bonneau, Joe Grube, Steve French, Amy Landry, and Dale Doughty, Dick Thibodeau

Commissioners Absent: Bethel Shields, Tizz Crowley

Others Present: Kevin Gagne, LAWPC Clerk, Michael Broadbent LAWPC Secretary, Sid Hazelton, LAWPC Clerk, Erica Kidd Watershed Manager, Lauren Olson Education and Outreach Coordinator.

Commissioner Bonneau called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM

Agenda Item 1: Water Quality Update- Erica Kidd

Erica was contacted by 880 Lakeshore Drive in Auburn. The owner of the home needs a new leach field. Because of the size of his lot and the proximity to the lake there is not an ideal location to move or replace the leach field. The owners are requesting that the Commission sell them a small piece of property to re-locate the leach field away from the lake.

The Commissioners discussed this and were not in favor of selling the land but perhaps giving them an easement. The Commissioners will consider this pending the review of a site evaluation and a review of the property's existing septic tank.

Erica gave an update on the Commission's forestry work. All forestry work has now stopped. Erica showed a map of some of the areas where harvesting took place on the corner of Skilling's Corner Road, Johnson Road and off the Tot Lot Rd in timber stands 2 & 3.

Erica and the Commissioners received some photos from Dan Bilodeau. He had concerns with potential erosion that was occurring at a logging site. Dale, Kevin and Erica visited the Johnson Rd Logging site where it looked like the pictures originated. They did find an area of the site that required remediation. The Auburn Water District followed up by seeding and applying mulch hay to cover bare soils and to help stabilize the landing. Pictures of the remediation work were reviewed by the Commissioners. No other areas of concern were found.

Erica and Lauren gave an Education and Outreach update. The Commission recently published a newsletter that introduced Lauren and Erica to the public. There has also been a series of public education events entitled "Forestry in the Watershed". The District Forester Shane Dugan and Logan Johnson from the University of Maine spoke at the Auburn Public Library. The Commission also hosted a Wild Seed Project presentation at the Lewiston Public Library. Lastly, the Commission also hosted a tree identification walk in the watershed.

Alum Application, which is slated to occur late June/early July. Erica has filed for the permit and coordinated with DHHS, DEP, IF&W among other organizations.

Other activities include: applying for grants to continue to study Townsend Brook, the boat launch was opened April 22, lake buoys will be going in the following week and the lake patrols will start around Memorial Day.

Agenda Item 2: Open Session

Mary Sylvester introduced herself as the newly elected Auburn Water District Trustee President. She also reported that after a recent Bates College presentation given by Holly Ewing, a group of people have gathered to learn more about watershed protection so that they will be more informed and stronger advocates for the protection of Lake Auburn.

Agenda Item 3: Open Session for Commissioners

Closed with no comments.

Agenda Item 4: AG/Resource Protection Zone Resolution.

Sid gave a brief overview of what has led to this resolution being developed by the Commission. The Commissioners were presented with the final draft of the resolution. Richard Thibodeau added comments that the resolution should be more specific on how it relates to water quality.

Vote 1 – Motion by Commissioner Doughty and seconded by Commissioner Thibodeau to approve the resolution as written and to have all of the Commissioners sign the resolution prior to delivery.

Approved 7-0

The Commissioners reviewed a press release that they would like distributed after the resolve has been sent to the appropriate staff and Committee members within the City of Auburn. Sid Hazelton was directed to deliver the resolve and press release

Vote 2 – Motion by Commissioner Landry and seconded by Commissioner Doughty to enter into Executive Session regarding negotiations of potential land transaction in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A 405(6)(C).

Passed 7-0

Executive Session ended at 11:53am

Erica Kidd was instructed to gather more information regarding the potential land purchase.

Agenda Item 4: Adjourn Meeting

Vote 3- Motion by Commissioner Grube and seconded by Commissioner French to adjourn the meeting.

Passed 7 – 0

A true record, attest;

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Broadbent", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Broadbent
Secretary of the LAWPC