

Town of Bristol
Lake Water Quality Study Group Meeting
November 2, 2022

APPROVED: 3/1/23

AGENDA: IDENTIFY PLAN
SET MEETING SCHEDULE

ATTENDING: Carroll Brown, Jr. (Conservation Commission Chair), Richard Batchelder (Conservation Commission Vice-Chair), Janet Cote, (Conservation Commission), Elizabeth Miller (Conservation Commission), Rebecca Hanson (Newfound Lake Region Association - NLRA), Mary Gebhart, Kane Lorah, Ken Milender, Jeff Chartier (Water & Sewer Superintendent), Christina Goodwin (Interim Deputy Town Administrator)

Mr. Brown chaired the meeting calling it to order at 5:00 pm.

Ms. Goodwin explained that the Lake Water Quality Study Group would be a sub-committee workgroup of the Conservation Commission and per the Town Attorney should keep minutes as the group will conduct research and produce a report to be considered by the Conservation Commission and Select Board. She went on to state that the meetings would not be conducted or recorded on Zoom unless determined necessary. For purposes of support to the Committee, Town laptops and other items would be made available as needed to complete the work of the group. It was determined that Janet Cote would keep notes of the meeting and transcribe minutes.

Mr. Brown asked for introductions around the room. A sign-up list was distributed to create a contact list. He then went on to state that the reason for gathering the group was to conduct research and collate data and other information concerning the water quality of Newfound Lake for the Town of Bristol. The purpose would be to have factual information and data to address water quality in relation to public questions and interest should the Town continue its pursuit of the Sewer to Lake project. He stated there was a lot of talk about phosphorus impacts when the Sewer to the Lake project was proposed. He would like to research and document what those actual impacts are.

IDENTIFY PLAN

Mr. Batchelder stated that it would be important to identify issues and supporting data. He mentioned other work done by the NLRA and asked Ms. Hanson if this could be made available to the group. Ms. Cote mentioned the need to look for all impacts, including any runoff and drainage issues such as those at the foot of the Lake from Red Fox area and Hemlock Brook.

Mr. Brown stressed that this was to be a Bristol only study. Others felt there may be further impacts as most of the Lake was located in Bristol. Ms. Goodwin shared the town maps to determine boundaries of the lake and the properties within the Lake District. More studies done by other organizations were suggested for review. In addition to the work done by NLRA, these included work done by Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC), Plymouth State College (PSU) and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).

After further discussion, it was determined to start with what information might already be readily available. Several volunteered to gather some research information for next meeting.

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- Rebecca Hanson will provide the group with a summary of materials and an annotated list to create a view of the 10 years of work done to date by the NLRA relative to water quality and land use trends around Newfound Lake.
- Carroll Brown, Jr. will check with NHDES for sewer studies and historic info. (Ms. Hanson suggested he look for impact to Waukegan)
- Jeff Chartier will look for historical data from previous attempts for Sewer to the Lake and Town Well data
- Christina Goodwin stated she would help with Flood Plain and Wetlands Overlay District and LRPC information
- Janet Cote stated she would look into whether there is any data or information of record with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Mary Gebhart stated there was a 2009 Watershed Plan done by PSU.

The group discussed the possibility of document sharing via internet or intranet and a possible Town webpage. Ms. Goodwin stated that a page could easily be created within the Conservation Commission pages or as its own location. Items that might make sense to include on the page were discussed. Carroll will work with Christina on this. Ms. Hanson stated that the NLRA water quality information was available on their website. Links were discussed as an option.

SET MEETING SCHEDULE

It was determined that Mr. Brown will Chair the meetings. A meeting schedule and timeline to complete research and create a report was discussed. With holidays coming and time needed to gather information it was agreed that the next meeting should be in December and the group would meet prior to Conservation Commission meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month. The following dates and times would be posted by the Land Use Office and any changes could be made at a previous meeting if necessary.

December 2, 2022 – 4:30 pm

January 4, 2023 – 5 pm

February 1, 2023 – 5 pm

March 1, 2023 – 5 pm

April 10, 2023 – 5 pm

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cote
Land Use Associate