

HLLT Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2021 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Zoom Conference Call

- Welcome – Gretchen Anderson, Ashley Krulik, Dennis Brown, Heather Huntt, Tom Verlee, Jarrod Maxfield, Nancy Lightbody, John Mackinnon, Jeff Dennis, Amanda Pratt, Kevin McElearney, Barry Tibbetts in attendance.
- Public comment was opened and closed. No comments were made.
- Motion made to approve October 10, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.
- Committee Updates
 - 319 Grant Steering/Oversight
 - Awarded a 2-year section 319 (Clean Water Act) funded project to follow 10-year Watershed Management Plan.
 - First steering committee meeting in early February.
 - Members are currently HLLT's watershed management committee.
 - Discussion to include Overlook Road residents as grant will fund majority of mitigation effort.
 - Grant will address:
 - Largest NPS site identified in watershed survey (Overlook Road in Windham).
 - \$75,000 fix. HLA applying for Windham Watershed Protection Grant funds (\$12,600), Overlook Road residents' contributions (\$12,600), remainder will come from grant (\$37,800).
 - Conduct education and outreach to two large horse farms in Falmouth.
 - Working with Matt Randall (Department of Agriculture) to conduct site visits.
 - Grant funds (\$15,000) to cost-share agriculture BMPs (i.e., manure storage)
 - Conduct education and outreach to private roads.
 - Focus will be on how to address private roads most effectively for water quality.
 - Identify barriers.
 - Identify greatest needs.
 - Will be thinking outside the box.
 - Minimum of two private road roundtables.
 - Education and Outreach
 - Nancy introduced Ali Clift, Education & Outreach Coordinator at Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD), to present the draft HLLT Education and Outreach Plan.
 - 10-year plan (part of Watershed Management Plan).
 - Reviewed budgetary cost.

- All members were impressed with the amount of time and effort given to draft plan. Many thanked CCSWCD staff for leading the charge.
 - Motion made to approve E&O Plan. Performed roll call member vote. All voted in favor of acceptance. Motion carried.
- Ordinance Committee
 - January meeting with Mark Hedrich, Maine State Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, for him to offer insight into the nutrient management ordinance for local hobby farms.
 - Had never dealt with specific municipal ordinance to address hobby farms.
 - Does not mean it cannot be done.
 - Ordinance outline:
 - Aimed at nutrient control in sensitive watersheds.
 - One animal unit (1000 lbs.) will trigger a requirement for a nutrient management plan.
 - Evaluated by State and CCSWCD
 - Homeowner would be responsible for cost – fee to establish nutrient management plan and then cost to implement.
 - Grandfather clause – existing homeowners would not need to pay for plan – would require revised plan if they increase number of animals.
 - John Mackinnon will draft ordinance for towns to review.
- Water Quality
 - Instrumentation and sampling this summer based on water cycling and wind patterns.
 - It was discovered that core samples taken in an area beyond the narrows on the lake had certain ratios that could promote internal phosphorus recycling. Previously assumed this was not the case based on core samples from the deep hole.
 - Operating hypothesis is that pico bloom could be caused by trophic cascade imbalances from certain stages of alewives overeating phytoplankton.
 - Received update that University of Maine received funding to complete eDNA testing, and Highland Lake is high on that list.
 - Highland Lake Association is proposing to Department of Marine Resources to allow change in waterflow based alewife migration to ensure the run occurs and allows them to leave.
 - Dennis will report out on outcome at next meeting.
- Meeting adjourned. Doodle poll will be sent out to schedule next meeting.