

New Durham Water Quality Committee (NDWQC) Meeting September 20, 2023

New Durham Community Room 6:30pm

Present: Mike Hudon, Maureen Knepp, Casey Buell, Fred Quimby

Absent: Bill Meyer, Deb Geer

In attendance: David Reis, Pam Kovak, Janet Atkinson

Maureen K opened the meeting at 6:32pm

Minutes: Discussion over the mins were amended prior to meeting on New Business "C" monies to be taken from septic survey budget not education for mailing. Under informational business "C", Bill M suggested to remove "Healthy swimming map" reference. Casey felt this is the DES name and should remain in the mins. Casey moved and Mike seconded approval of the minutes from August 23, 2023.

Informational Buisness:

- A. Membership: Deb Geer has been approved by the Select Board for appointment to the NDWQC.

Penny Meyer submitted her resignation.

Mike Gelinas submitted his resignation.

- B. Capital Improvement Project Presentation (see FY2023 CIP Request) Project description form was reviewed with the CIP committee on August 30, 2023. Casey and Maureen worked with the TA to apply for Milfoil treatments in the required format. This was presented to the CIP committee and multiple questions were fielded. The map of the milfoil was submitted and the Aqualogic team from NY will be out to do the work in Sept or October. Down payment of \$15400.00 has been paid, the contract is not to exceed \$23,000.00. NDWQC is asking for \$20,000 annually with every third year adding \$6,000.00 to cover herbicide treatments.

- C. Budget:

Water testing is going up to \$14 per TP and TN tests in 2024. In 2022 we did 151 tests @ \$12 a test = \$1812.00 So far in 2023 up to 8/9/23 we have done 149 tests and we still have all of Augusts, Septembers, MMR tribs X2 month till Dec to go. Most likely be in the \$3K range. Fred felt asking for \$5K for 2024 was too high and was knocked down to \$4,000.00. Fred later submitted that water testing on all the water bodies would be \$6,5000. Equipment was kept at \$500.00 a year. Fred felt we needed 4 stream gauges (he has 2 and 4 poles) \$100 each. These need to be calibrated \$1000.00 each if done professionally but felt committee members could do this. Also the Lake loading response model would cost \$3000.00 but also felt this could be done by committee members. Mike H asked if \$100-200.00 could be offered to entice someone to do this, but Fred noted there were no takers in the past. Maureen and Casey to work with interim TA and Finance personnel on budget.

- D. Bill Meyer has submitted the Grant for NHDES exotic plants for 2024.
- E. Milfoil Update: Maureen spoke with Dominic Jude of Aqualogic from NY who will be doing the DASH treatment in Marsh, Jones, and Downing Ponds for 2023. He had not received the info from Amy Smugula, but she responded promptly and will plan on harvesting it in September or October. No one has noted seeing divers as yet.
- F. Coldrain and Club Pond need to be checked for Milfoil. Tabled till next spring.
- G. MMR tributaries (11) need to be checked every 5 years and are now due. Fred and Mike H. to do.
- H. Fish Hatchery and Dam Bureau reports. Fred asked and Bill M agreed to review these reports when available. Mike H reports that engineers were taking sediment samples around Jones and Downing Pond. Dam Bureau report will be a while. Fred is watching for both of them.

#### New Business:

Eutrophication of Shaws Pond. The Accessors map was used to demonstrate the inflow and out flow of Shaws Pond. We discussed the rising total phosphorous in the pond as well as in 2 of the tributaries and what this means to the clarity, vegetation/algae growth. (Boat ramp brook and Washington St Bridge brook). Shaws Pond has gone from oligatrophic in 2018 to mesotrophic in 2019 & 2021 (no data in 2020 due to pandemic) and eutrophic in 2022. A plan of action needs to be taken.

- 1. Create a Shaws pond Association. Casey showed her brochure that will go out in the mail to all Shaw Pond residents. Purpose is to get everyone involved and educated about the problem and take this on as a community to prevent decreasing property values and work toward a clean and healthy lake.
- 2. Septic survey – This has been completed and shows:
  - a. 22% have septic systems < 35 years of age
  - b. 27.4% have septic systems older than 35 years
  - c. 30% there is no information in the town files or NHDES system about septic systems

The town has sent out letters to all residents within 250 feet of water bodies in New Durham that have older septic systems of >35 years or unknown septic systems to supply information or get inspected within one year.

- 3. Tributary and runoff analysis (photos and GPS coordinates of each site, mark erosions of shoreline around lake) Maureen + Casey ? Mike H to do this Fall.
- 4. Hire Engineer to do BMP matrix – Contact has been made with Eric Reiter of Weston and Sampson.
- 5. Model My Watershed calculates tributary flow compared to measured. Maureen to learn.

All questions, of the Shaw Pond residents that attended, were answered. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted, Co-Chair Maureen Knepp of the NDWQC