

Sunrise Lake Watershed Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM. Nine members were present (8 in person, 1 person attended telephonically). Following the Pledge of Allegiance, members reviewed the previous meeting minutes.

Minutes: September Meeting Minutes were approved as presented, Motion by Dave Miller, seconded by Cindy DeCrisofaro, passed unanimously.

Finance Report: Chairman Mullen presented the finance report/update. Some items are still being clarified. In addition to the written report including donations, expenses, and grants, open action items were discussed and are as follows:

- The Town bookkeeper is working to identify what account to place those funds currently listed as being in a Temporary Distribution Account.
- The Chair is continuing to have discussions concerning how to correctly set up accounts, and how to access those funds without going before the town to utilize them.
- Following a question from member Kate Buzard, the Chair will confirm what happens to any unused funds at year-end, such as whether they go into a general fund, and are then not earmarked for a specific use.
- Is it possible to add donations to an expendable trust as they come in, and what is the process for that.

Budget (2024): The Chairman met with the Conservation Commission to present the proposed budget for the Advisory Committee, in the amount of \$1,600.00. Part of the budget is due to the increased cost of the VLAP, with the larger amount of increase for educational materials, mailings etc. After discussion the Conservation Commission approved the draft budget, with one member voting against. The discussion turned to the importance of educating all residents, not just those that are within the watershed, as to the fact that detrimental impacts to the watershed affect everyone financially, not just through access to the lake. There will be an upcoming meeting during which the Conservation Commission goes before the BOS and the Budget Committee with the proposal, and the Chair expressed the importance of members attending that meeting.

Subcommittees: The committee discussed various options for creating subcommittees, and that the process should be to set some short-term goals, as well as longer term goals so that by the start of 2024 the group can be organized and ready to go. After discussion 2 subcommittees were identified and initial action items were created:

- Education and Outreach Subcommittee- responsible for educating, outreach (within and outside of the town), publicity, marketing, etc.
- Water Quality Monitoring & Management Subcommittee-working to maintain information regarding water quality, issues, successes, and may cross over to the outreach committee as far as talking with other communities for ideas and collaboration.

The Chairman requested that the subcommittees consider their short- and long-term goals for the next meeting.

Members had the following additional comments:

- Any updates to the questions raised in the Finance Discussion will carry over to the next meeting.
- Randy Barnes suggested the creation of a shared folder so that logo's, goals, etc. can be in one shared location, with the ability for members to add to the contents.
- Linda Adamo suggested that the monthly meetings include breakout sessions for the subcommittees to give members time to discuss or work on various action items.
- Member/Clerk Joni van Gelder took the action item to create the shared folder and following a question regarding making everyone's contact information available, will also make sure members are in favor of having their contact information shared with the group before doing so.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 21st, 5:30 PM at the Old Town Hall.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni van Gelder