



# Town of Middleton

182 Kings Highway, Middleton, New Hampshire 03887

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Sunrise Lake Watershed Advisory Committee

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Meeting Minutes  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## Call to order: 5:30 PM

Present at the meeting were Chair John Mullen, Vice Chair David Miller (telephonic), Clerk Joni van Gelder, and Members Kate Buzard, Linda Adamo, Cindy DeCristofaro, and Randy Barnes.

## Housekeeping

The clerk reviewed remote access options, and requested that as the meeting is being recorded, members state their names when making motions for ease of record keeping.

## Old Business

- Following a review of the previous meeting minutes, a motion was made by Linda Adamo to approve the minutes as written, passed unanimously.
- The review of the Mission Statement was tabled until the next meeting.
- The Chairman shared the research he has done regarding seasonal residents' ability to be an officer, and/or voting in these meetings. The Municipal Association, the NH Association of Conservation Commissions, and the State of NH all have different opinions as to this matter, it was decided that the officers and voting members stay as is for now, until a final determination is made as to which organization's mandate should be followed.
- The question of how to handle, account for, and utilize donations brought forth several questions, as did the question about how donations are tracked when a donor specifies its use. There are ledgers, conservation funds, in/out accounts as well as an expendable fund. The Chairman will continue to research as well as review the conservation commission bylaws. It was the unanimous conclusion of members present that a better understanding is needed before embarking on a particular method of tracking donations, as the committee wishes to be transparent and clean in their reporting.
- The Chairman reviewed his report to the conservation commission regarding this committee's work thus far, reported on upcoming testing for e coli at Lakelands, and that the grant applied for will provide the ability to do more testing. That grant is due to be awarded mid-October. The Chairman also reviewed the VLAP and Lake Living discussion/presentation of September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The power point from

that presentation will be uploaded to the town website, and the committee will host a second presentation in the Spring.

### **New Business**

The following was discussed with respect to new business:

- NH Marine Patrol would be happy to come to Middleton to address boat safety. That presentation is tentatively scheduled for the first weekend after Memorial Day 2024.
- A discussion of what sub committees are needed, and what the priorities are for them. The initial priority should be publicity/education, so that all residents understand the importance of protecting the lake, whether they are within the watershed, or use the lake. Some of the ideas identified were the creation of a 1-page flyer, sending out a message with the tax bills. Linda Adamo will take the lead on the creation of a flyer.
- The Chairman will act as the Finance reporter for the meetings.
- The Clerk will contact the Lake Kanasatka Watershed Committee <https://kanasatka.org/>, to inquire if they are willing to share ideas for what is working for them for community outreach. Other organizations, such as Lake Sunapee, Big Island Pond, and Acton Maine Watershed.
- Member Cindy DeCristofaro suggested the committee look at activities in the town that this committee should try to use to further communicate our efforts, and the Chairman will inquire of the Town Moderator if for example a display could be put up at town meeting or voting day.
- Member Kate Buzard inquired if we can identify the locations of the culverts that go into the lake.
- After a review of the poll responses for meeting days/times it was determined that the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month, a 5:30 meeting time and a one-hour duration works for most of the members. Email is the preferred method of communication.
- The next meeting will be on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM at the Old Town Hall. It was noted that the Zoning Board will be meeting on that date at 6:30 PM, so the meeting will start and end promptly to accommodate both groups.

Respectfully submitted,

Joni van Gelder