**Steering Committee Meeting**

North Conway Water Precinct

Saco Watershed Collaborative

June 25, 2019

12pm-2pm

**Attendees**

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Robyn Saunders [Robyn@attaining.me](mailto:Robyn@attaining.me)

Sophia Scott (no longer with Maine CDC Drinking Water Program)

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Robyn: Overview of today’s meeting. We will hear from Rick Ellsmore then hear from all of the committees that we formed since March 22nd. We will talk about what we have been accomplishing since March. Then we will go over the action strategies. Then we will talk about the annual meeting happening in December. We want to have a reception to recognize the partners that have been involved in the SWC success this year.

**Presentation by Rick Ellsmore**

* Put up on Basecamp.

**Update from Committees (upload the update from Robyn to Basecamp)**

* Data and Analysis Committee
  + Challenge the DAC to provide recommendations for new and maintain and inventory of existing, datasets (GIS, WQ, etc.) to properly inform the SWC Action Strategies.
  + SRCC had a joint QAPP with Green Mountain Conservation Group. They are biweekly testing from North Conway to …. Testing for …
  + WRDB to use as the tool to be able to view and upload all of the data from ME and NH.
  + Saco River Watershed: Water Quality Data Collection Sites (Pam Morgan water quality StoryMap).
  + There is not a reason to test water in the SR from a DEP standpoint because the river is not threatened.
  + NCWP has water quality data for drinking and waste water.
    - Send in finished water data; violations.
  + Perhaps we need to reach out to DHHS for other water quality data that we might have.
  + **Topics explored**: repository for data, types of data, tools to manage data, data manager position, define “health of watershed”.
  + **Status**: Vetoed by Sustainability Committee. What do we want to do with this data? Think beyond water quality, using WRDB, incorporate this concept into data gap analysis.
  + **Possible Orgs**. to manage data: Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program,
  + Our messages must be science-based and ready to be
  + **Things to think about**:
    - Land use changes over time sporadic analyses have been done in Maine. One thing that was perceived as a threat was over development next to the water. Keeping
    - Using students to synthesize and manage the data.
* Sustainability Committee
  + Rick Knowlton is the current “champion” for this committee: To sustain the SWC.
  + Goals
    - Grand subcommittee to pursue 1-2 awards
    - Outreach to business community: targeting interested partners
    - Realistic budget to 2020
  + **Topics Explored:** Budget for 2019 and 2020, enticing additional funding, GIS projects, Splintering of headwaters, neutrality.
  + **Status:** list of tasks for 2020, outreach to breweries, continue to recognize all work being done.
  + **Things to think about:** 
    - “A day Without Water” – October 12, 2019
    - Brewsheds and conservation: kiosks with photos, something that spins and successes of the watershed.
* Education and Outreach Committee
  + NRCS update: Targeting county soil and water conservation districts, 5 outreach workshops to take this to the communities. (Biddeford/Saco, Cornish, Buxton, Brownfield, Hiram)
    - Late spring 2020 rolling out the program.
    - Coordinate with the SWC.
  + **Topics Explored:** orphaned action strategies, outreach to breweries, marketing collateral.
  + **Things to think about:** adding a mountain top for the one-page summary, adding a faucet for the logo on the right side where the dot is.
* Stewardship Committee
  + Charge: TBD – address conservation, preservation restoration, wildlife and habitat issues, as well as resiliency.
  + TBD: 2019 goals
  + TBD: First meeting
  + **Things to think about:** co-chair with the committee with Wayne.
    - Do a conference call or meeting in-person.
    - NRCS has been working with Maine Water Company on American Water Works Association, soon.
* Orphaned Activities
  + Only one activity in the Action Strategies is not being addressed.
* Annual Meeting and Reception
  + December 6th, 2019
  + St. Francis room at UNE in Biddeford
  + Suggestions for presentations/reception
    - Call for abstracts?
    - Bringing in someone that has been in an established collaborative.
    - Brewshed Alliance, ID one business leader from the breweries that can get on the agenda (possibly go off-site for the reception).
* Fall Meeting
  + We will send out a doodle poll with dates for Sept.
  + Education and outreach committee
    - Develop marketing materials
    - Refine messages for “ask”
    - ID Data gaps
* Updates from partners:
  + SRCC: LR2204
    - Not moving forward. The SRCC has worked to approve rule making changes.
    - Allow a 10 foot wide river walk.
    - No need for a fourth development district.
    - But, we aren’t sure if the issue has been completely settled once the rule changes have been in effect for a while.
    - Existing non-conforming structures that need to be rehabbed, plus a 30% expansion.