

Meeting Minutes Thursday March 3rd, 2022 6:30 PM: Zoom

Attendees: Lindsey Wight, Craig Cimmons, Cynthia Scott, John Little, Paul Stanley, Ellen Fox, Wendy Scott, Sarah Lunn, Brian Jerose

- 1) Welcome; check-in with everybody
- 2) Review of February meeting minutes
 - JL made motion to accept, CC seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- 3) Administrative Business
 - Change of indirect/sharing costs with UMATR
 - Budgeting for altered costs starting in October 2022
 - Office Update - John
 - Working on a contract with JC to purchase. Looking at May 1st as the timeline. Priorities are brickwork and roof. Possibly write P+S agreement together?
 - Community Relations Coordinator
 - EF and SL will work on advertising it, EF will post flyer made by SL
 - May need a special meeting to do selection/interviews
 - Close application cycle on April 8th, leading to a potential decision at the end of May
 - 1st round of interviews with LW, maybe EF too. Can record if members would like. 2nd round could add more members if needed.
- 4) 2022 Grants updates
 - Applied: Watershed Grant - 3 river clean-ups (somewhat supported by LEAP interns) and also knotweed replanting projects for LEAP interns. Applied for VCF Spark funds for a ANM-focused paddle trip (applied as the fiscal agent for W&S)
 - Received: (at least partial funding) from VAAFM CWIP - to support 4 years of ECO Americorps membership, with focus on local farms
 - Partner-grant applications: (no updates yet) LCBP Large E&O - partner with Lamoille County Conservation District for teacher training. Also submitted a letter of support saying we would help FNLC expand in-school programming Wing, Waves, Variables (Kurt). TNC-led 3-year effort to build capacity for Process Based Restoration in headwater areas.
 - Updates: Received 4 grant awards - our LCBP Org Support (new staff, newsletter, CISMA support, Soiree), LCBP's AIS (small amount to continue our research plots), Forward Philanthropy (Community Relations Coordinator and ANM-partner activities (paddle trip?), and our Woody Buffer funds (3 acres in Troy; 1.5 acres in Sheldon)! Sadly, did not receive our request for LCBP E&O funds to support WaterInSight – would still like to fund!
 - Conversation have indicated that there is teacher support for this program - will seek other money, maybe use of our unrestricted funds?
 - Upcoming/Planning: DESIRES/SOURCES: Soiree, Concert? Water InSight, (Potential sources: Ben & Jerry's)
 - WS will ask Peter for cost to book Atlantic Crossing - Montgomery concert possibly the 2nd week in August?

- 5) Water Sampling Planning - La Rosa: requested 9 sites - 3 on Coburn in Troy, one on Lucas in Richford, one on Snider and 2 on an unnamed trib in Westfield, one on Hannah Clark and one on the Trout in Montgomery. Water InSight program at some scale
 - Water InSight: will keep going @ existing sites. The farm in Westfield has made the following changes: fenced off fields, provided a water source for cows - will be able to see the impact of new on-farm improvements. The farm in Enosburg is enrolled in the Pay for Phosphorous program. The program is currently setting up a baseline about where farms are and then will measure changes.
 - Consider using our funds if we haven't found grant funds by late summer (schools = fall implementation of project)
 - Recruit volunteers to collect the data at least (even if we won't have the funds to do the data analysis)
 - Flow meter - would be good to invest in (\$1,500 - 2,000)
 - Or find someone who is electronically capable to build one (much cheaper) - Rich Stovall; Ted Fleischer?
 - Would create a level of accuracy that is currently lacking in the model
 - EF will find diagram to share, see if R or T are willing
- 6) Tree Planting in Sheldon and Troy - recruit volunteer groups? Schools? Other?
 - Ben & Jerry's? Cat Rock: coming sometime between April 25th - May 1st tree planting and a clean up?
 - Casella, Jay Peak, Sheldon School, Troy School
- 7) Summer 2022 Events: river clean-up, concert?, "25th" anniversary? VINS Watershed Wildlife?
 - Yes to VINS!
 - Concert: Atlantic Crossing?
 - 25th Anniversary: Have a concert and dinner in Westfield?
 - Marianne would love to host us again
 - Fundraiser in Montgomery may be more successful for a concert? Do band there and separate anniversary event @ Windy river?
 - Would have to be an "off" day, may not be best for a great gala/fundraiser
- 8) Other Business:
 - "Pay for Phosphorus" details
 - Actually pay for performance
 - Sets baseline for farms (modeling)
 - Data about farm into Farm CREP - changes in practices (i.e. no till corn planting; cover crops)
 - It will reduce P by X - the farmer gets paid for that amount of reduction. Modeling can go back in time to account for practices already implemented (so no penalty for being ahead of the curve)
- 9) Next Meeting - April 7th, Bakersfield Fire Station
- 10) WS motioned for adjournment, CS seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.