

MEETING NOTES
Public Engagement Working Group
Water Sustainability Commission
October 18, 2011

The meeting was held on October 18, 2011 at the offices of Amy Manzelli at the Baldwin and Callen Law Firm in Concord.

Issues discussed and addressed include:

1) Update on meeting with Governor included the need to get to Governor's staff a set of talking points and local/regional examples that he can use when he is giving talks, meeting with groups around the state.

ACTION: Public Engagement Working Group to develop draft for approval at next meeting by Commission

2) Need to confirm if Tom Burack is member of Public Engagement Working Group of other

[conversation with Tom at Commission meeting resulted in following. Tom going to sit on Information working group, Paul Susca will be DES rep on Public Engagement Group]

3) Public sessions:

Denise gave briefing on meeting with Bruce Mallory regarding use of method for public outreach sessions for Commission.

- Listening sessions done around Gaming (1 full day) and DRED's strategic planning process

- Offers an existing infrastructure (facilitators, note takers, report out, pre-registration) for reaching out and facilitating public engagement

- Provides lasting infrastructure (NH Listens, LNH, Carsey Institute, NHCF, existing listening groups (Portsmouth, Dover, Lakes region, Pittsfield), Portsmouth Listens/Sustainable Portsmouth

- Bruce suggested having 1 date with different sessions/locations across the state.

- Cost: DRED sessions cost \$30,000 though WSC sessions could be covered with \$20,000

Potential sources: NHCF, Denise has Letter of Inquiry into Park Foundation for \$10,000

4 WSC would have to work with Bruce Mallory/Facilitators to frame overarching question that would frame listening sessions

ACTION: Get approval from Commission to proceed with planning through Bruce Mallory

Meet with Portsmouth Listening Group/Sustainable Portsmouth (though concern

was expressed that we need to be mindful of not getting into depths of details working with local groups)

5 Other ideas included preliminary “study circles” – 6-8 months prior to public session

4) Data base/outreach list: Need to follow up on status of Google list - need to build out – identify mechanism for doing so – ask Commission members whether any of them have resources on staff or otherwise to do master list and then in addition to Google docs have Facebook page

ACTION: Check with Jen on Google List, request assistance from Commission members on building out list

5) Other Actions: Denise and Marcy to meet with Portsmouth Listens/Sustainable Portsmouth,

John/Marcy to follow up on funding (NHCF)

Public Comment: Bill Hounsell offered comments on funding infrastructure. Need to have two things working at once: Laws/regulatory programs that require certain actions and then good cost-sharing programs. Look to where it is working: North Conway, SWA.

Next meeting of Public Engagement Working Group:

Wednesday, November 2

3PM

Baldwin and Callen, Concord, NH