

MEETING NOTES
Public Engagement Working Group
Water Sustainability Commission
April 17, 2012

The meeting was held prior to the full Water Sustainability Commission meeting at the offices of the Department of Environmental Services, Concord, NH.

Commission members present: Denise Hart, John Gilbert, Amy Manzelli, Marcy Lyman
Guests: Paul Susca/DES staff

1. Review and approve notes from 4/9/12 meeting

Commissioners reviewed the 4/9 notes and approved with two small changes: on page 1 the date for the June session is the 19th and on page two, in Action, revisions are to be sent back to Molly only.

2. Review and discuss comments on NH Listens Participants Guide

The Group reviewed the latest draft of the participants' guide that NH Listen had sent for comments. Comments included a need to provide more personal questions – ways for people to connect that can reflect their individual values. Question of whether there could be a worksheet on water where participants can check boxes that help to make link between use and supply- how do you use water. Paul noted that he took items out for length and that perhaps they could be used as a shorter sidebar. We all agreed that in general it met our criteria and to let Molly and Michele work with our suggestions.

We realized that we need more information about the framing questions that NH Listens is preparing. Denise will follow up about this.

ACTION: It was agreed that Working Group members would send comments directly to Molly and cc other PE Working Group members. Amy will follow-up with Molly about survey idea. Denise will follow-up with Molly for more details about the framing questions.

3. Requests received for additional public engagement session

There have been two requests to add more sessions: Belmont and Lakes Region. Denise will follow up, but it was agreed that it would not be possible due to funding constraints to add or design any additional sessions.

ACTION: Denise will follow-up with the two email requests for additional sessions.

4. Use of logos for May 8 outreach sessions

There was some discussion about whose logo to include in publicity for the May 8 sessions. The decision was to have the Commission (State logo), Carsey Institute and NH Listens for all publicity and acknowledgement in materials for the sessions and final products will include the NHCF, Great Bay, NH Rivers Council.

Amy suggested that we might want a 'logo page' in the June 19 participant guide for those stakeholders participating.

5. Outreach to industry

Paul Susca mentioned that he had met the CEO of EMS at another meeting and described the work of the Commission. Denise will follow up with this contact.

John has been asked to speak at the Granite State Rural Water Association (Sept annual meeting) and the NH Planners Association (May)

ACTIONS: Denise will follow-up with EMS CEO. John will speak at GSRWA and the NHPA.

6. Email outreach to DES lists and review of general public/stakeholder session goals

Paul sent an announcement to DES lists and will show the lists to Molly.

It was decided that when Denise makes report at WSC meeting to follow that she will ask who has received email announcing sessions and from whom (NH Listens or other contacts?)

7. Next meeting date

The next meeting of the Public Engagement group is scheduled for April 25 to focus on design/planning for stakeholder session.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.