

**MEETING NOTES**  
**Public Engagement Working Group**  
**Water Sustainability Commission**  
**April 25, 2012**

The meeting was held at the offices of the Baldwin and Callen, Concord, NH.

Commission members present: Denise Hart, Amy Manzelli, Marcy Lyman  
Guests: Paul Susca/DES staff with Michele Holt-Shannon participating by phone

1. Review and approve notes from 4/17 meeting  
This agenda item postponed until next meeting.

2. Outreach

John, Denise and Paul will be guests on NHPR's "The Exchange" program on Tuesday, May 1 – one week before the NH Listens sessions. Question of whether to send draft participant's guide for NH Listens to Ellen Grimm, producer at NHPR will be referred to Molly at NH Listens. Denise will coordinate getting information to Ellen.

Denise reported on her conversation with Will Manzer, CEO of EMS. He indicated that while he is very much interested and would like to be involved, he has limited time availability. It was suggested that while he can't be at the June 19 meeting, perhaps he could assist with encouraging business voices to attend and participate. General discussion about the Outdoor Industry Association and its interests in conservation as it relates to support for outdoor recreation, its composition –a non-traditional coalition, and its current emphasis at the national level to secure Land and Water Conservation Funding and support for the President's Great Outdoors Initiative. Manzer offered that the Association is updating data and statistics with a 6/2012 release of macro statistics for US/States and a final report in January 2013.

Discussion focused on the need for NH specific statistics to add to national statistics about the contribution of the outdoor recreation industry:

\$ 900 billion contribution to the economy, 7 million jobs, \$1billion in tax revenues

**ACTION:** Denise will contact Will Manzer to ask for his help with encouraging OIA members to the June 19 session.

2. NH Listens and May 8 Public engagement sessions update

Review of logistics for the May 8 sessions:

- Jenn designed a signup/email list for people wanting more information to be at table at Listening Sessions. Suggestion to add address and phone numbers, and check mark for preference for mail or email. Paul will ask Jenn to make changes.
- Amy is coordinating Commission coverage of the 5 sites. She will communicate with the Commissioner assigned to cover each site to bring own computer, extension cord, and adapter, and slide show and make sure each knows how to run – be responsible for set-up.
- Jenn will send package to each Commissioner assigned to the site with sign up sheet, handouts and NH Listens Roster. There was a question whether this material should be sent to the NH Listens site manager or the Commissioner assigned to the site. [Later

confirmed with Michele to have it sent to Commissioners.] Amy will get cell phone numbers for each Commission member assigned to the sites and will circulate update on coverage to Commission by Friday.

- Paul provided sample packet of information (fact sheets, informational brochures) and suggested additions include: Handout on the Commission, NH Lakes Assn “What’s our Water Worth” (to be added) and the watershed map, water cycle and graph about costs/needs for infrastructure (all included in participant’s guide). Other suggestions included link to DES for more information.
- Participants’ Guide – final comments to Molly no later than Monday (May 7) morning.

3. June 19 Water Professionals/Business/Industry stakeholders session: Michele Holt-Shannon joined by telephone

Denise outlined ideas for a process for the June 19th session that is based on the recognition that most of the participants will be professionals used to being in meetings and being asked to take on certain tasks and come up with solutions. She proposed the use of self-directed groups with one or two roaming facilitators to work with the groups and to have a general reporting back to large group, similar to what was done at the Leadership NH Environment Day that she facilitated. Michele asked what the Commission wants to get out of this particular group and suggested that if part of the dynamics is that varied water stakeholders have not been able to get over the hump of building a coalition/getting together wondered if a facilitator is necessary. She thought if there are a lot of new voices at the tables then a facilitator would definitely be needed. We all agreed that there is much know about the “what” concerning water sustainability, that what we need to move into is the “how.”

The discussion began to focus on a budget with a concern about numbers, space and room configuration. It seems clear that a larger room than what is possible at DES is needed; expecting 200-250 to attend. If additional facilitators and paid space were required the possibility of finding corporate sponsors was raised. Amy will talk with John about whether Commission can solicit corporate sponsorship for any Commission events [later consultation with legal determined that this was not doable].

**ACTION:** Amy will contact John to find out legalities of possible corporate sponsors for June 19 event and report back.

In the meantime:

--Michele offered NH Listens would set up registration link, Bruce and Michele would contribute time to design the session and facilitate and provide list of final insights. If we wanted a summary of the input from each group and analysis that would be 20 hours of cost.

**--We need a need final decision on location by May 15.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm