

**Southeast Watershed Alliance (SWA)
Planning Committee Meeting No. 6
271 Mast Road
Dover, NH**

Minutes

April 21, 2010 @ 9:00 AM

Members Present

Peter Rice, Portsmouth	Jim Irish, Madbury
Wally Fries, Danville	Jennifer Perry, Exeter
Michael Perfit, Stratham	Mike Trainque, Chester
Candace Dolan, Hampton Falls	
Tom Willis, Rochester	

Guests Present

Ted Diers, DES
Cathy Coletti, DES
Mark Olson, Hampton
Randy Henderson, CLF

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM.

Approve Minutes

Jennifer Perry moved to approve the March 25 Planning Committee minutes with no revisions. Tom Willis seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Old Business

Action 4.4-2 Ted Diers and Alison Watts will meet to discuss the potential grant list that was developed.

Open: No update was available for this meeting. Cathy Coletti will meet with Alison to review the list.

Action 4.3-2 Dick Snow will create a draft organizational chart. This will not be part of the bylaws, but rather a visual depiction of how the SWA is structured.

Open: This task has not been completed.

Action 5.3-3 Peter Rice will think about and potentially consult the legal dept. on the regulatory status review portion of the agenda.

Open: Peter is waiting for a written response from the legal dept.

New Business

6.1 Housekeeping

According to the legislation, the bylaws need to be reviewed by the DES. An executive summary on the SWA would also be helpful.

Action 6.1-1 Ted Diers will forward the bylaws, once updated to reflect today's changes, to the DES.

Action 6.1-2 Cathy Coletti will use the FAQs to write an executive summary and send to the tri-chairs for review.

According to the legislation, the Advisory Committee are nonvoting members of the SWA. At the next meeting, they will be invited to sit at the table with SWA members.

6.2 Potential Grant Opportunities

It was noted that goals are needed in order to successfully apply to grant opportunities. Specifics such as budget and deliverables will be needed as well. Developing work tasks are the next step for the SWA. The Advisory Committee will provide guidance as well as synergy with the PREP Management Plan and other groups.

The Target Watershed Grant may be a good match for the SWA.

Ted Diers is working towards a mechanism to get the SWA fund populated with dollars.

6.3 Mission Statement

The draft mission statement was discussed. There was consensus that the word "balance" works well because it addresses many aspects, including water quality, businesses, jobs and public access. The concept of balance also aligns directly with the mission of the Coastal Zone Management Act.

6.4 Bylaws

The most recent draft of the bylaws was discussed. The group made comments and edits relative to specific sections. These detailed changes were recorded by Wally, Peter and Michael.

A few notable points from the discussion:

If there is a proposed change to the bylaws, the communities' governing bodies would be notified.

A discussion on the nomination and election process resulted in general consensus. It was agreed that a Nomination Committee, this year the Planning Committee, will select a slate of potential Board of Directors. Officers are then named by and from the Board of Directors.

A new item was added under Article IV Meetings: "Meeting notices and minutes will be posted electronically."

Jennifer Perry made a motion to accept the revised bylaws. Candace Dolan seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

How to address the concern about conflict of interest in the bylaws was discussed. The group reached consensus that limiting a community's ability to select a representative is not the best course of action for the SWA. It's a local decision to select the best person to represent a community.

Action 6.4-1 Michael Perfit will post the updated version of the bylaws on the SWA website.

6.5 Agenda items for next meeting of the Alliance.

The group discussed agenda items for the full SWA meeting on May 5, which will include committee status reports and other group status reports; approving the bylaws; and asking for volunteers interested in serving on the Board of Directors. A public comment period will be added at the end of the meeting.

Action 6.5-1 The Planning Committee will develop the slate of Board of Directors at its next meeting.

6.6 Other Issues of Concern

The DES blog has become duplicative of the SWA website. The SWA website content is fully populated and serves as SWA's online presence. Having both websites is confusing to users.

Peter Rice made a motion to take down the DES blog. Wally Fries seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Action 6.6-1 Cathy Coletti will start the process of disassembling the DES blog. The DES Calendar of Events will be used to post meeting notices in the future as well as the SWA website.

Educational presentations at full SWA meetings was discussed. Several ideas for presentations came up, including nutrient trading and regulation implementation. Hearing from the Environmental Protection Agency, Dept. of Environmental Services and Conservation Law Foundation on how regulatory actions would be implemented under the Clean Water Act is a topic of interest. A panel discussion or a forum for a candid dialogue between all the players was discussed, perhaps in the fall.

Other ideas included site tours for SWA members at the UNH Stormwater Center and a wastewater treatment plant.

Action 6.6-2 Ted Diers will talk with Bill Brown at Wright-Pierce about potentially presenting on nutrient trading at the June 9 full SWA meeting.

Action 6.6-3 Randy Henderson from CLF will talk with CLF about a potential regulatory action presentation.

Mike Trainque is a member of the Stormwater Commission and reported that the final report will be released in the fall, and will have important implications.

Ted Diers will attend the May 24 meeting of inter-related Commissions as a representative of the Great Bay Siltation Commission. The Land Use Commission and Stormwater Commission will be represented as well as others.

6.7 Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on May 26 at 9 AM at the DES Pease Field Office in Portsmouth.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tom Willis. A second was made by Mike Trainque.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.