

**Approved 3/17/16**  
**Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**February 25, 2016**

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Attending: A. Bryson, K. Coulter, H. Drew, C. Fox, W. Galloway, M. Grant, J. MacKenzie, A. McCann

Excused: A. Desbonnet, P. August, B. Rashleigh

**1. Call to Order & Overview      6:30 PM**

Helen announced that Alan had resigned from the board but would continue to chair the Fund Development Committee. He has given years of service to WPWA and will be missed. Helen encouraged all to recruit new board members.

**2. Status of Activities**

a) Walt had suggested two changes to the minutes. The discussion of the Wyoming Dam occurred prior to going into executive session. The last sentence of the section on the water quality presentation should be clarified to indicate that Pete suggested that monitors who were losing sites could possibly be assigned to a new site. With those changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

b) Chris reported on recent activities. His report is attached to these minutes. The staff met with both RI Emergency Management and Environmental Management to discuss the upcoming recommendations of the flood resiliency study with respect to the Wyoming dam. EMA's focus on flood mitigation provides support for the plan's recommendations. DEM has different divisions with different perspectives which makes support not straightforward. DEM is interested in meeting to review all issues related to flood mitigation-dam removal in watershed. Chris will work on meeting preparation.

c) & d) Alan will remain chair, which is consistent with WPWA policy. The committee has developed a three step plan to develop funding. In Phase 1 it will meet with at least 5 long-term members for feedback on their view of the organization and reasons for supporting. It will attempt to complete this by April. In the April-June period it will meet with at least 5 new members prior to membership renewal, with a goal of elevating membership renewal giving and gaining feedback on a new membership structure. It will then reach out to 15 members in the September-December period with a goal of raising \$10,000.

**3. Water Quality Monitoring Assessment**

Walt recommended that the Board commit to ongoing program of water quality monitoring based on the findings and recommendations in the assessment report, and further recommended

that the assessment be repeated in 5 years. There was discussion of costs. Chris pointed out that costs sometimes have risen without notice, and it was agreed that it is important to pin Watershed Watch down to a number they will be charging at the beginning of the year via a contract. The Water Quality Committee, utilizing guidance from the assessment, will work annually with the budget team to determine how to fund tiers and sites.

Mal moved to accept the recommendation of the committee that WPWA commit to an ongoing program of water quality monitoring based on the findings and recommendations of the report (Tier 1 &2) and that the committee and Chris have authority to determine implementation of the monitoring effort on an annual basis. Joe seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **4. Annual Meeting**

After discussion of the timing and format of the annual meeting, it was determined that this year's annual meeting will be held on a weekday evening. May 19 was chosen as the date. Tentatively the plan is to have drinks and appetizers and kayaking in the early evening, followed by the annual meeting. Volunteer monitors will be targeted as the primary audience, and there will be a presentation on the monitoring report. There will be awards presented to the selected emeritus trustees and the volunteer monitors. Staff will be in charge of planning the event with board support from Kim.

#### **5. Adjournment**

At 8:20 pm, there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.