

Lake St. Catherine Strategic Planning Committee

Notes from the 12/12/09 meeting

Meeting called to order by Jim Canders, Association President

Present: Mary Jo Teetor, Rob Nesbitt, Marli Rupe, Frank Callahan, Bill Steinmetz, Jim Canders, Mike and Sue Kelley

Mary Jo Teetor, Committee Chair stated purpose of the meeting was to discuss three reports presented to the association.

Neil Kamman's presentation in September, 2008  
Larry Eichler's report Fall, 2009  
Army Corps of Engineers report October, 2009

5-Year Plan approved by the State was also discussed.

Discussion began with the Army Corps of Engineers' report. In particular the program to provide Planning Assistance to State (PAS). Since this study is cost-shared 50% federal-50% non-federal different funding possibilities were reviewed.

Part of the 50% non-federal can be in kind. Question arose as to whether the Back Road survey prepared this summer would qualify as well the work already done by Larry Eichler.

Marli Rupe mentioned that the EPA and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative may also have funding that would be available to us.

Rob Nesbitt will draft a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers expressing an interest in their PAS program. This letter will be CC to local government and interested State parties as well as legislative officials. *(Letter to be reviewed by Trustees and signed by President.)*

This is considered a lake-wide project. Discussion followed regarding the need for the lake to be represented by a cohesive group. The purpose of the Lake St. Catherine Conservation Fund was presented by Bill Steinmetz as follows:

- To provide funding
- Apply for permit to clean up lower channel (Susan Warren and Steve Hanna from the state have already visited this area for this purpose)
- Be a part of the strategic plan
- Stress the urgency of the situation
- Be a pressure group
- To have a process that makes sense to this group

Further recommendations from the committee are as follows:

Contact Wells planning commission to see what regulation might go in place regarding land use around the lake. (assigned to Mike Kelley)

Workshop and newsletter for landowners regarding best practices to mitigate further deterioration of the lake. (assigned to Marli Rupe)

PowerPoint presentations and information to be available through the Website.

Continue pursuing hydroraking as an option to land owners. (Mike and Jim will contact Jeff Crandall about status of project)

Try to obtain a “read” from the State on what they will permit hydroraking for (i.e. lily pads).

Explore what other lakes have done (success and failures).

Ask Neil Kamman and Larry Eichler what the odds are of the lake flipping to an algae-filled state if dredged. (assigned to Marli Rupe)

Check into the purchase of a hydro lab.(Rob Nesbit)

Jim Canders has a meeting with the State and other Vermont lake association officials in January. At that time he will ask the State about the possibility of expanding our 5-Year Plan in both scope and length. Bill Steinmetz will prepare the text for this request. Bill would like a 30-50 year plan. *(Since the State is allowing a “clean up” of the lower channel, can we also take a look at cleaning up the channel into the Lily Pond from the North Bay. If so, would the State be willing to incorporate this as an annual monitoring program for the respective areas as part of the 5-Year Plan)*

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting will be scheduled after the *State* meeting and after a response is received from the Army Corps of Engineers.