

Lake Almanor Watershed Group Meeting

Wednesday, July 8th, 2020 1:00-3:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Attendees

Bridie Johnston

Carl Felts

Gina Johnston

Lorena Gorbet

Charlie Plopper

Phil Datner

Moorea Stout

Susan Padilla Riney

Scott McReynolds

Carol Broderick

Dov Weinman

Approval of Agenda and June Minutes

Lorena made one correction to a typo on the agenda. Carl motioned to approve the agenda and Lorena seconded. The group approved the agenda. Dov was asked to make the correction with regards to the Chamber of Commerce being under the Plumas County of Supervisors. Gina motioned to approve the minutes and Susan seconded. The group approved the agenda.

Financials

There were no changes – Bridie shared the current status of the group's financials.

Member Updates and Announcements

Gina suggested there was a little to be concerned about with regards to Water Quality at Lake Almanor because the water was already warm. 2020 was a dry spring, and in deeper waters the oxygen is already starting to drop off. She suspected we'll have loss of oxygen from mid-July to early September and thinks that it's possible it will be a rough summer for coldwater fish because the oxygen depletion is starting early. Bluegreen algae is present but their populations are still low. Gina will send information out about the speece cone.

Scott mentioned that, due to logistics, they got out for monitoring a little early this year. Phil has been assisting. Something to note is that the tributaries feeding into the lake already look like it's the end of August. Scott continues to look at temperature data and dissolved oxygen trends from 2015-2020. There's still an August and November run and at some point the group will need to consider how we're going to transition away from DWR. Scott is looking into getting surplus

equipment so that Gina can work with LAWG members and community members to continue monitoring.

Charlie update the group about the couple funding agencies that are actively interested in the Collins Rail Trail becoming a recreation trail. Portions of the FS are also potentially interested in partnering. He's talked with Sherrie, and she wants to try and find some money from the county to provide extra momentum.

State of the Lake w/ Feather River Land Trust (Moorea/Dov)

Moorea and Dov discussed their efforts with Feather River Land Trust to develop the State of the Lake Panels. They'll ask one or two members of LAWG to participate on the Water Quality and Fisheries panel.

Moorea described her efforts to initiate the Aaron Seandel Watershed Hero Tribute Fund – which will be a way to honor Aaron and also to raise awareness about the groups efforts. Aaron has been instrumental in water quality monitoring, fund raising, and other projects for decades and the group was very supportive of this development. Moorea plans to connect with Bridie. Moorea also challenged LAWG members to bring a friend or project partner to the August meeting. Group members agreed that recruitment needed to be a higher priority.

Bridie shared that in the previous meeting Aaron had produced a letter from the board of supervisors with regards to the Water Quality Certification Program.

Susan shared that LAWG's efforts to Tour demonstration gardens around Tahoe has been put on hold. Group members are still trying to get information see how they did their fundraising. MSC has been working in Humbug Valley and have started their Native Plant nursery close to a spring. Group members asked if Lorena might come up with a list of native plants that could be featured in the next newsletter.

Other Business

Susan will handle communications with WACC with regards to donation request. There was a discussion about who might speak and present on behalf of LAWG. Group members suggested that Jonathan or another staff from Sierra Institute would be ideal and requested that Sierra Institute prepare the presentation.

Carl mentioned that there has been a lack of enforcement for airplane landings on the lake and asked LAWG members if he should pursue this issue. LAWG members suggested that Carl continue to pursue it to because it may affect water quality at the lake.

Members discussed whether or not they need to review the Lake Almanor Management Plan annually or if there should only be periodic reviews. There was consensus that the plan doesn't need to be re-evaluated every year.,

Members also discussed the option to meet every other month but have subcommittees continue to meet every month. Group members will re-evaluate this at the next meeting.