

Lake Level Resolution Committee (LLRC) Meeting
City Hall Council Chamber, White Bear Lake, Minnesota
Wednesday, May 22, 2013
7:00-8:55 P.M.

Members Present: Tom Alvarez, Margaret Behrens, Bryan DeSmet (chair), Suzanne Donnell, Mike Downing, Bill Foussard, Janice Hallman, Terry O'Loughlin

Members Absent: Paul Bolstad, Ali Elhassan, Scott Mueller, Todd Stutz

Alternate Member Present: Don Madore

Others Present: Tony Cullen (?), Paul Putzier

Agenda:

1. Update on water conservation activities.
2. Discussion of strategic communications plan.
3. Discussion of next phase of the USGS study.

Janice Hallman reviewed conservation materials and specifically talked about the water use chart which discussed which appliances used how much water in gallons per minute. Mike Downing suggested a seasonal rate should be considered for summer months when water usage is the highest.

Bryan DeSmet told the group that four signed letters were sent from the White Bear Lake Conservation District Board to:

1. The City of White Bear Lake requesting that the City of WBL consider using their existing Mt. Simon Hinckley well during the high demand summer months.
2. The Metropolitan Council requesting that Metropolitan Council include the options from the LLRC report in a feasibility study.
3. The Metropolitan Council requesting that the Metropolitan Council coordinate discussions with NE Metro communities regarding water conservation and converting to a surface water drinking water supply.
4. The Department of Natural Resources requesting that the DNR designate a groundwater management area around WBL.

Bryan reported that no responses to the letters have been received to date.

The next "Our Water, Our Future: Resources in the Northeast Metro" Symposium will be held at Century College in the Lincoln Mall on the East Campus on Monday, June 10, from 6:00-8:00 P.M.

On June 20, July 11, and July 25, Janice Hallman will arrange for the LLRC to have booths at Marketfest. Some will be in conjunction with other groups. The question of funding was discussed and Bryan felt this might be covered with donations of time and money.

Mike Downing felt that the LLRC should create consistent messages regarding the Options Report that the LLRC recently presented, and was approved by the White Bear Lake Conservation District. He felt it was important to have a consistent message when asked to comment on the report and the work of the LLRC. He asked other committee members to help him write the LLRC's Strategic Communications Plan so Margaret Behrens, Bryan DeSmet, Bill Foussard, and Terry O'Loughlin volunteered to help Mike with this special project. He felt three areas should be stressed: conservation, augmentation, and regionalization.

There was general discussion of the next phase of the USGS Study which had just received funding from the Legislature. Bryan said the LLRC will encourage the Met Council to start the request for proposal process as soon as possible and to have the feasibility study completed by March 1, 2014.

The next meeting will be held on June 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of White Bear Lake City Hall.