

Canaan Source Water Protection Committee

Minutes of June 7, 2006 meeting:

7:00 PM Meeting opened at the Fire Station.

Staff member present: Heidi Brannon, GSRWA

Members present: David Shinnlinger, Chair; Jay Waldner, Vice Chair; John Bergeron, Secretary; Bob Reagan; and Wally Medeiros.

Members absent: Jim Linn, Bill Wilson, Joe Damour, and Tim Jennings

Also in attendance were Scott Clang of GSRWA and Paul Susca, Source Water Protection Coordinator for NH DES.

7:00 PM Minutes of the May 06 and May 17 meetings were read and approved.

Discussion of the two page document "Canaan Source Water Protection Committee Possible Management Recommendations – Canaan Street Lake 5/17/06" took place. This document had been discussed at the previous meeting, but Paul Susca was able to provide additional information, guidance and recommendations. Also reviewed was a single page document "Committee Suggested Recommendations for Watershed Protection Plan, 6/7/06", which was provided by Heidi. Paul made the following comments on both documents. The current DES regulation (Env-Ws 386) which protects the watershed and reservoir can be revised if the town demonstrates a need and the selectmen support the change. Such changes could include increased buffer zones, boating restrictions, or reservoir boundaries for example. Buoys need approval of the NH Department of Safety and any wintertime marker placed on the ice requires the approval of the NH Fish & Game Department. The preferred method of placing restrictions in the watershed area is through the use of zoning restrictions. Shoreland protection is more commonly implemented than watershed protection. By ordinance the town may create shoreland protection regulations which are more restrictive than DES regulations. DES Sourcewater Protection grants could be used to support a septic system ordinance and/or tracking program. As a start we should complete a septic system census for homes located within 200 feet of the lake. Grants are also available for storm water management programs, such as controlling Canaan Street drainage. The state has land acquisition grant money available for available parcels. The current emergency plan is not comprehensive and requires an update. The town should complete a nutrient loading and build out analysis for the Canaan Street Lake watershed. It is essential that any proposed change or restriction be justified by adequate studies, most often requiring consultants. Proposal support by the town and the selectmen is also required.

DES has watershed outreach project funding at the \$2K level. They also have a November first deadline for \$15K studies funded at 100%. And there is a 25% state share on land acquisition grants.

Not all 2 stroke engines are dirty, as there is a fuel injected variety which runs clean. Nancy Kinner of UNH Environmental Research Group has done some studies on the impact of boats on water quality.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

John H. Bergeron, Secretary

These minutes were approved at the July 19, 2006 meeting.