

Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 18, 2018
9:00am

Members Present: Ken Post
Steve Lynch (Facilitator)
Greg Rejman
Ed Wagner
Jim Siezerenga
Kathleen Cuddy
Michael Didio
Deb McCormick (Via Phone)

Extended Work Group Members Present: Nick Colas
Judy Wright
Seth Jensen
Andrew Snell
Brian Hall

Facilitator: Doug Thompson

The meeting began at 9:00am.

Steven introduced Doug Thompson from Consensus Building Institute, he works for the firm that facilitated the HABs summits hosted by the Governor in the Spring.

Doug provided some background information on his professional career. He has been a facilitator with CBI for about 8 years and worked with a group out of Colorado before that.

The extended work group had a meeting with Doug yesterday to introduce him to the project and share what they have been working on to-date.

Group did introductions.

Doug began the meeting by going over some agenda items and topics for discussion. He also laid out some guidelines for successful meeting discussions.

Doug shared his understanding of the role of the steering committee as a multi-faceted group with expertise whose purpose is to provide information and represent multiple constituencies from the community.

Before he handed out the draft regulations that the extended work group has developed Steve wanted to discuss as a group what the next step should be in the process.

The group asked how concerns or proposed edits/alterations would be funneled back for discussion.

Steve shared that this is always going to be a process, but the goal is develop a set of rules and regulations that the group feels comfortable moving to the next step. The extending working group feels that the draft is the best they could have developed based on their knowledge and expertise.

Greg asked if there is a list of goals that we are working towards or is it just a generalized goal of updating the current rules and regulations. Steve shared that the working group addressed all the areas in the current regulations. They took the perspective that the document is a water quality document focused on the water that feeds the lake and how these regulations can be enforced on the local level.

Greg shared that is important to remind the public at the start of each meeting the goals of the meeting and the purpose of the document.

The group discussed the best way to review the document. Seth suggested looking at the new rules and regulations and pulling out the parts that are new or in addition to the current regulations Jim suggested having a one or two page document that highlights the changes. The group felt that would be helpful.

Greg shared that due to some recent press it could be difficult to have members of the agricultural community engage in the process. CAFO community is frustrated and feel that the large farms are the only ones that get regulated and they control less than 3% of the watershed.

Doug asked the group how they wanted to move forward with the meeting and the discussion of how to roll-out the changes to the public. Ed shared that it will be the City of Auburn and the Town of Owasco who will vote on the regulations, so it is important to begin to share the process and goal of the project with the members of their councils.

Steve shared the outline of where the group/project has been. The extended working group and the steering committee had a meeting at the College in June 2018 and the extended working group received a lot of feedback from the meeting. The extended working group went back to the table to address comments/concerns that were discussed at that meeting. The group finished the document up in August and began working to get a facilitator on board.

The group reviewed that remaining part of the outline and decided to add an additional steering committee meeting prior to the start of the stakeholder meetings. The group asked the extended working group to work to develop the one to two page sheet that highlights the changes that can go out the stakeholders. The steering committee would meet one more time to prepare for the start of the public meetings. Seth suggested inviting the State Agency's to the public meetings so that they can be included in the discussions.

The group discussed how to get the stakeholders to want to participate in the meetings and be involved in the process. Deb suggested working with the media to positively promote the project

and try to highlight the purpose of developing a water quality document, not to point fingers at any one area. Kathleen shared that it is important we make it known that the extended working group has looked at all areas of concern, not just focused on one. The group suggested approaching The Citizen and also Steve Penstone from the radio and Guy Cosentino from the public access television station.

Judy shared that the group must first take the document home and review it themselves and come back to the next meeting with questions so we can begin working on developing the highlights document. The group felt this was the most productive way to move the process forward. Seth suggested giving a finite period of time for the group to review and come back to meet again.

Steve circulated the notes from the June 7th 2018 meeting and pointed out that the numberings do not match the current version.

Doug suggested highlighting some of the key points to assist the group when reviewing the document.

Steve highlighted the edits to the document and how the document is laid out. Greg suggested detailing the process for violations to accompany the document so people can see that it's not just rules, but that there is enforcement as well.

The group agreed to review the document and come back on November 8th at 9:00am to have a working sessions.

Meeting concluded 11:10am