Meeting called to order at 7:06
In attendance: WPAC - Beth Kelly, Josh Galper, Jeff Parker, Jim Ricker, Cheryl Baggen
Minutes for meetings dated 8/15 and 9/8 approved.

White Pond Vision Statement
After noting that the Vision Statement incorporated feedback from Town employees, experts in the field, and Town residents interested in the well being of White Pond, the Motion to Approve the Vision Statement as amended was unanimously approved.

Reports back from volunteer groups
Water Quality Meeting to discuss proposed testing scheme for White Pond has been set for October 5, 2021 with Beth Kelly WPAC, Nancy Leland Limnologist UNH, Delia Kaye NRD and Susan Rask BOH.

White Pond Youth Conservation Group will present a septic system data report at the October 27 meeting with Susan Rask providing high level overview of septic systems.

CPA Application
- For use of APOD was submitted on time. WPAC has been asked to give a presentation to the Community Preservation Committee at 7:30 PM October 19, 2021.

Update from Jon Higgins, Higgins Environmental Associates regarding the use of APOD at White Pond

APOD was moved from the Town beach to Thoreau Cove based on evidence that algae bloom is pronounced in this location.

Thoreau Cove has higher concentration of Cyanobacteria and for longer periods as compared to other areas in the Pond. This is likely due to wind, currents and the protected nature of the area.

Nancy Leland, the Limnologist working for Jon, has collected samples and will analyze the Cyanobacteria samples taken as part of this project and provide a summary report.

Jon noted that there have been some idiosyncrasies regarding the size of the Cyanobacteria population in the trap. There was a drop in the population size by the 3rd week and it is not clear whether some were released or something else was happening. He noted that the trap was swarming with Zooplankton in the Zooplankton Sanctuary that he added to the APOD.

Jon stated that the APOD can be used actively almost like a vacuum, when there is a visual scum from the Cyanobacteria. He also has a smaller, more portable version of the APOD which he can use from his boat. Jon stated that the largest biomass of Cyanobacteria is found in the visual scum.
Water quality data will be available by 10/5. Jon noted that he had reached out to Susan Rask and Delia Kaye regarding his data thus far, but has not heard back from them, and he will write a summary of his findings at the end of the season and provide some visuals.

When questioned about the long term benefits of the APOD removal of Cyanobacteria, Jon stated that the removal of the Cyanobacteria is, in itself, a removal of nutrients from the water as the populations are taking up nutrients from the water and also from the sediment. He stated that use of the APOD was a natural way of improving water quality. At Katie Blair’s request, Jon stated that his report on White Pond would be added to his website when the report was available.

When asked whether the current NSF grant could be extended another year, Jon stated that he is currently involved in 7 different field trials and one criteria for such grants is whether the project is financially viable.

Irwin Hipsman asked whether there was a way to just pull up sediment. Jon stated that he has a patent for a tool that does that but has found that APOD accomplishes the task without the downsides of removing sediment.

Steven Ferrey asked whether there has been a decrease in Cyanobacteria. Jon stated that the level has stayed the same throughout the spring/summer.

Volunteer Committees
Some of the groups have met:

Water Quality group (Suzanne Langbridge, Katy Blair, Jeff Parker and Beth Kelly)
Suzanne and Jane have obtained data collected and will send to Bill Walker to add to his graphs which have not been updated since 2017. Jeff Parker has resigned from this group to concentrate on septic.

Septic & Sewer Group (Jeff Parker & Jim Ricker)
Talked about what they want to accomplish. Met with Susan Rask and she gave them a great deal of time. They reported that Susan believes that the biggest nutrients contributors are from septic systems and soil runoff. Susan talked about what has happened in the past regarding potential use of sewage treatment in the White Pond area (a topic that Josh reported on in an earlier WPAC meeting). When asked about new technologies that remove P and N from septic systems, Susan stated that she researched these and found that they did not significantly remove nutrients from septic systems. She is more in favor of sewage treatment. Josh stated that based on community feedback, there continues to be some concerns about betterment fees and who is impacted by installation of a sewage treatment facility.

People Management Group
Josh suggested that a new group related to people management be established and called for volunteers. It would engage with the police department and consider the impact of BFRT. At the meeting Marybeth Barker, Lara Wilson and Josh volunteered.

Stephen Crane asked about the objectives of such a group. Josh stated that the development on Rt 117, with access to the Pond and BRFT, trash, number of people, nighttime activity and traffic parking are concerned. Should there be signage on BFRT - based on comments from the
community. He noted that even in the 2015 Vision Statement it was noted that there are no bathrooms near BFRT and that facilities should be provided.

Beth asked if there is a Town group that is working on this? Stephen replied that regulation and enforcement is complicated given the number of parties (Town, State, private property owners). It was suggested that the Town provide a forum during which citizens could discuss their concerns and the Town could identify the conflicting issues.

Lara Wilson stated that she would be willing to collect narratives on this issue as well.

John Coleman was introduced. John is teaching an adult education class on White Pond. He has written books about ponds around this area and is teaching a course on such ponds and how they work. John worked for USGA at Walden and worked on such issues as the leachate from Town dump reaching Walden Pond, which he stated is very similar to White Pond. John has worked on ponds on the Cape with similar nutrient loading issues.

John started his belief that the ESS report’s descriptions of the White Pond watershed is not correct. He explained that groundwater divides do not meet with topographic divides when dealing with glacial ponds and that more data would be needed to reach an accurate conclusion regarding the watershed for White Pond.

Meeting adjourned - 8:41 PM