



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Medicine Lake Stakeholder Meeting

Tuesday March 4, 2014

6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Plymouth City Hall

Results of Small Group Breakout Discussions

Questions posed to each of four small groups

(Each group included representatives from various stakeholder groups; given approximately 30 minutes to discuss)

1. Who will make the final decision regarding how Medicine Lake water levels are managed? What will help them make a fair, well-informed decision?
2. Who is responsible for improving or protecting the quality and values of Medicine Lake? What is needed to help them do that?
3. What are reasonable next steps?

Responses – Group A

1. People will help influence the decision. Property owners, local units of government, stakeholders, lake users (boaters, fisherman, swimmers), downstream users. Needed: all the required studies, scientific data and lake modeling.
2. Shoreline property owners, those who recreate, watershed residents, downstream, government entities (MPCA, EPA, BCWMC, cities). Needed: Money, public input, hydrologic and environmental studies.
3. Who leads the charge? Identify and secure majority of all property owners. (Who is majority?) Hydrologic studies – who pays? Surveys, environmental assessments.

Responses – Group B

1. If run-out elevation is changed, then DNR. If run-out elevation is not changed (with installation of variable weir), then still DNR. Needed: Hydrologic and hydraulic information to define effects of changes in outlet structure and/or effects on upstream and downstream areas; includes survey information to get elevation of potentially affected structures/properties; elevations and sensitivity of environmental elements of Medicine Lake (plants, shoreline, animals, etc.)
2. Everyone is responsible. Needed: Money; good technical information (internal loading rates and alum doses to control); aquatic plan management strategy; how much external load reduction is needed and how much has been achieved?; prevention measures to reduce risk of aquatic invasive species infestations; establish partnerships.
3. Comprehensive inspection of all inbound boats and water-borne structures. Updated aquatic plant management plan.

Responses – Group C

1. Not any one entity – combination of stakeholders and DNR final say. Ultimately, BCWMC and Hennepin County need to check boxes – DNR will defer to them. Needed: Data; answer to question: can you design a structure?
2. Everyone is responsible. Needed: education of all stakeholders, money, data, engagement
3. Water quality seems at right spot. For dam level: is it possible to retain water during dry times (engineering question)? What is owners' position on issue (Hennepin County) – would they transfer ownership? Committee of interested persons.

Responses – Group D

1. DNR, cities, BCWMC (or watershed district if one is formed). Needed: Facts on how it will affect the lake and surrounding areas. Need to prioritize which issue is most important: health of lake, recreational use, flooding. Need to know who pays.
2. No response (due to time constraints)
3. Prioritize issue of improving the lake. Hydrologic study.