

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

### **BUGET NARRATIVE 2022**

#### **01.4611.65.111 Wages Lake Host Program**

Estimated Lake Host expenses are paid to NH Lakes at the beginning of each season. Paid Lake Hosts are employees of NH Lakes, which pays their salary from the funds that are initially remitted to NH Lakes. The local budget request for Lake Hosts salaries is based on a somewhat complicated process. First, the total of all salaries is calculated. This figure is reduced by (1) the amount (if any) of money remaining from what was invoiced by NH Lakes the previous year, (2) a grant that is based on the number of boat inspections undertaken the previous year, and credit of \$300 given for exceeding a minimum number 'matching' hours of volunteers at the boat launch.

In addition, the salary request includes a BOS approved honorarium of \$1,500 that is paid to the local Lake Host Coordinator.

The negative salary figure for 2021 resulted from my salary request that was too low combined with an increase in the hourly rate paid to Lake Hosts that occurred after submission of the grant.

The salary request for 2022 is lower than that submitted for 2021, in large part because approximately \$2,200 was carried over from 2021 to 2022. This large amount reflects the reduced number of hours that Lake Hosts spent at the boat ramp because of poor weather during the summer of 2021. We expect a grant in support of the salaries of \$1,700, down from the \$1,900 of 2021 – again, the 2021 grant was dependent on number of inspections undertaken in 2020, and 2020 was a very busy year at the boat ramp. In addition, the poor summer weather of 2021 reduced the number of boats coming to Deering Lake, which contributed to a lower grant.

For 2022 we are budgeting for an increase in the number of hours that the ramp is attended, and the length of the day is increased from 10 to 11 hours, from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. This gives 459 paid hours at the boat ramp between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

The Lake Host salary request for \$4,500 is summarized as: \$6,824 for paid hours + \$1,500 honorarium MINUS \$2,197 carry over and \$1,700 grant.

#### **01.4611.65.310 Conservation Research**

The Conservation commission is responsible for testing lake water. The requested amount is the cost of State water testing. In 2020 thanks to the Covid 19 pandemic NH DES did not perform water quality testing at Deering Lake. Local volunteers performed two lake water testings.

#### **01.4611.65.350 Conservation training and certification**

This budget line is used for allowing up to 4 (of 7) con comm members to attend two annual state conservation conferences: UNH-Saving Special Places, and NH Association of Conservation

Commissions annual meeting, which includes training sessions. Thanks to Covid 19 neither of these meetings was held in 2020.

**01.4611.65.480 Conservation dues and subscriptions**

This includes Deering membership of NH Lakes, which administers our Lake Host program, and membership of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. Each membership costs approximately \$350.

**01.4611.65.491 Conservation roads and trails**

Funds are requested to perform specific annual mowing of the Gregg Hill lot as part of developing a pollinator garden.

**01.4611.65.493 Conservation youth programs**

The conservation commission will provide support for two area pre- and teenagers to attend UNH 4-H Barry Conservation camp in summer 2021

**01.4611.65.499 Conservation other supplies.**

In 2020 Conservation commission purchased our own lake water sampling equipment. No big expenditures are expected for 2021..