

NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for April 5, 2019

Meeting Attendees: Lareina Guenzel, Candice Hopkins, Susan Holdsworth, Mike McHale, Marie DeLorenzo, Julie Vastine, Danielle Donkersloot, Mary Skopec, Dan Sullivan, Tim Oden, Sara Peel

1. Membership Updates (Gary and Susan)

- Julie Vastine is now the Volunteer Monitoring Representative

2. National Monitoring Conference Update (Lareina, Susan, Gary, Jeff, Monty)

- Julie congratulated everyone on a well-done conference
- Mary inquired about how the webinars went; we had over 150 people attend each live and they went very well
- Danielle responded that the webinars have a definite audience for future conferences. We need to determine how much audience members may be willing to pay to attend webinars broadcast from the Conference in the future
- Lareina suggested that we start planning for the 2022 NMC now. She is going to start generating content about this, and Candice will forward to Council members.
- Danielle suggested that we have a Student Committee in the future to make sure we don't overlook this important group.

3. Collaboration and Outreach (C&O) Work Group (Candice and Danielle)

- The Work Group will focus on helping to finalize the Water Quality Portal Communication Plan.
- Our Spring Newsletter is in the works; we'd like to publish it by May.

4. Water Information Strategies (WIS) Work Group (Mary)

- WIS is working on finishing fact sheets.
- The Evaluating Progress subgroup and Water Quality Standards subgroups plan to start meeting again soon.

5. National Network of Reference Watersheds (Mike)

- Mike is currently working on finishing the hydrologic disturbance metric and land use metric.
- Funding for NNRW will run out at the end of FY19. Mike is hoping the Reference Watersheds Workgroup can be moved somewhere else.

6. Volunteer Monitoring Work Group (Julie and Danielle)

- The VM meeting at the 2019 NMC had about 45 attendees. There were lots of new participants and the meeting went well.
- Julie attended the Citizen Science Conference, which held an informal meeting of aquatic citizen scientists, which was about 20 people total. Julie heard great ideas about how to broaden connection across the field.
- NSF is wondering why water monitoring isn't making its way into funding categories. Julie had some good discussions about connecting people with NSF funding.

7. Bioassessment Data Work Group (Dan)

- The in-person meeting at the conference was successful; the group has other ideas for potential directions and interests.
- The Methods Board/Sensors group has been on hiatus but has had good discussions. They need to get a clear direction and gain some momentum.