



## **Public Information and Education MINUTES October 3, 2017**

Committee Members Present: Tina Mole, Rich Parete, Mike Triolo, Jim Sofranko, Marty Donnelly, Innes Kasanof.  
Staff present: Diane Galusha, Alan Rosa, Tim Cox. DEP staff: Jim Bogner

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

1. Minutes from the April 2017 meeting were accepted without change.
2. Tina Mole was nominated for another term as Committee Chair; all in favor.
3. Staff opened discussion of the 2018 budget, noting that in 2017 \$152,726 was expended on school grants, and \$15,616 in public audience grants. Diane explained that two special initiatives are being examined – one a WOH Watershed teacher conference to draw more educators into the fold; and the other an effort among various agencies to encourage high school students to learn about and pursue water and watershed-related jobs/careers in the WOH watershed. Diane suggested an additional \$5,000 be allocated for one or both of these endeavors. Rich Parete moved and Innes Kasanof seconded that the 2018 budget will be \$150,000 for school grants, \$25,000 for public audience grants, and \$5,000 for teacher conference and/or jobs outreach initiative. All in favor.
4. The Round 21 RFP was distributed and discussed. No changes were recommended by PEAG, staff or the committee. Staff will make a concerted outreach effort to get more WOH applicants this year. Outreach begins this week at Trout in the Classroom teacher meeting when a flyer with info on the new WatershedEducators website will be distributed.
5. Karen Rauter of Rondout Neversink Stream Management Program has been appointed to PEAG to fill the seat of Aaron Bennett who has stepped down after many years on the committee.
6. Update on Round 20: 20 contracts have been executed, 3 are in process, 7 awaited.
7. Update on Round 19: 11 final reports due; 2 due later this fall. All others have been submitted.
8. CWC outreach activities for 2017 culminate this month with two performances by Arm of the Sea Theater's new show, "City That Drinks the Mountain Part 2." A performance at the Ashokan Reservoir Fountains will be held in partnership with NYC DEP to mark the centennial of the completion of the Catskill Water Supply and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the MOA.

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting adjourned 12 noon.