

SUMMARY NOTES
Yahara CLEAN Compact Steering Team
Friday, October 4, 2019
8:30-10:00 A.M.
Verex Plaza, Isthmus Conference Room, 3rd Floor (150 E. Gilman St.)

Yahara CLEAN Compact Purpose: *To align partner efforts around an ambitious but achievable action strategy for attaining shared water quality goals.*

Vision: *To restore the designated uses of our lakes and beaches under the Clean Water Act.*

Why a compact?

- *To unite around a common vision and updated action plan for achieving lake water quality goals.*
 - *To identify resources to implement the action plan.*
 - *To monitor progress through tracking metrics and benchmarks.*
 - *To communicate to the public the need, ongoing work, and progress toward goals.*
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Pre-meeting Homework:

- (1) Review updated draft of the Yahara CLEAN Compact (revision date: 9-30-19)*
- (2) Review draft of the Logic Model*
- (3) Complete the Reflection Sheet*

Meeting Objectives:

- (1) Communication agreements*
- (2) Agree on logic model as roadmap to the Compact's work; align with revised scope of work*
- (3) Clarify Compact participation roles, decision-making protocols, and organization/mgmt.*

I. Introductions and Group Assignments

Present: Janet Schmidt, Greg Fries, Mark Riedel, Mark Rupiper, Kelly Hilyard, Coreen Fallat, Anne Baranski, Martye Griffin, Tricia Gorby, Brenda Gonzalez, Chad Cook, Dave Merritt, Kyle Minks, James Tye, Dale Robertson, Jake Vander Zanden, Kathy Lake, Paul Dearlove, Issis Macias (scribe), Luke Wynn (scribe), Sharon Lezberg (facilitator)

Meeting convened at 8:33 a.m. Paul welcomed the group and introduced Sharon Lezberg from UW Extension as the Steering Team's meeting facilitator.

Facilitator Guidelines:

1. Start and end meetings on time.
2. Focus on process so the group can focus on content; provide process so the group can do its best work.
3. Give everyone the opportunity to participate. (No one dominates. Need all ideas to identify the best solution.)

4. Request that participants stay present and focused on the task at hand.

Steering Team-identified Group Agreements:

- One discussion and one person speaking at a time.
- Respect all opinions and interests.
- Designees to communicate expected absences prior to each meeting.
- Maximize meeting time by focusing on the specific objective or question at hand.
- Maintain Compact-editing transparency, such as by identifying the source of each proposed document change.
- Designees in attendance will update and share relevant meeting outcomes with their fellow designee (if absent).

II. Review and Discuss Logic Model

Speaking for the working group, Gorby and Cook presented the logic model for the Compact's scope of work. The logic model was created at the request of the Team to illustrate relationships between activities and outcomes, and to break those down into basic project phases. It can be considered a living document that reflects our present understandings. In other words, things may need to be added, modified or dropped as the process moves forward.

Logic model objectives:

- Provide a visualization tool to show how activities fit together and contribute to desired outcomes. (This information is in the Compact, but many people are visual learners and benefit by seeing the relationships between planned Compact actions and desired outcomes.)
- Clarify why we are here.
- Define the situation, who is included, and how are we making decisions.
- Build trust among participants.
- Designate project phases and the outcomes associated with each phase.
 - Create Compact
 - Determine Progress and Goals
 - Identify Priority Actions
 - Develop Implementation Plan

Discussion highlights on value of the logic model:

- Good summary and useful for describing the Compact to the public.
- Should be shared on the Clean Lakes Alliance website and other areas.
- Helps identify what is critical to communicate, including project phases.
- Great internal document that can be used for agenda setting.
- Can help us set up a project plan and timeline, and keep us on track.
- Can be used to recruit additional participants and help clarify goals.
- Might be good to include as an addendum in the Compact.

Dearlove noted that the latest Compact that's been circulated (draft date: 9/30/19) reflects input received at and since the 10/4 Steering Team meeting. Edits include refinements to the ordering of the scope of work as informed by the logic model. Gorby added that the model illuminates our assumptions, and outcomes become more explicit so we can be more unified and accountable.

ACTION ITEM: Provide any final comments or proposed edits to Dearlove as track changes. This should be done right away to allow time for any issues to be addressed before the next meeting. The plan is to have the Compact ready to sign by 12/3.

III. Organization and Management of the Compact

A. Participation

Given the purpose and vision of the Compact, what additional partners or collaborators does the Steering Team feel are critical to success but missing?

Distinctions between partner and collaborator roles and expectations were briefly reviewed as summarized in the Compact. The goal of the exercise was to identify strategically important agencies or organizations, but not grow the group so large as to impede effective deliberation and decision-making. Participants suggested the following groups as part of a brainstorming activity:

Potential Additional Partners

No additional, prospective partners were identified.

Potential Additional Collaborators

- Yahara Pride Farms (decision on invitation still pending)
- U.S. Geological Survey (decision on invitation still pending)
- Madison Area Municipal Stormwater Partnership (invitation extended)
- Downtown Madison, Inc. (invitation planned)
- Yahara Lakes Association (invitation planned)
- Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce
- Dairy Business Association
- Dane County Builders Association
- The Nature Conservancy
- Wisconsin River Alliance – new focus on agriculture
- USDA’s Natural Resource Conservation Service – agricultural regulation
- Public Health Madison & Dane County
- Municipalities in the watershed (or Cities & Villages Association as umbrella group)
- A large or influential farmer in the watershed
- Groups representing underserved communities (i.e., dairy workers are more than 50% Latino)

Signatories to Statement of Support

- State legislative representatives with districts in the watershed. Almost all have signed on as supporters.
- Friends of Pheasant Branch Conservancy
- Friends of Starkweather Creek
- Other watershed groups – can pull in as needed to provide input
- IRONMAN Wisconsin – have deep pockets and can provide financial help (part of Destination Madison?)
- Lake user organizations
- Columbia County

- Rock County – although downstream of lakes
- Wisconsin Land & Water – can represent multiple counties

Further discussion was suspended since the group had not yet determined a decision-making strategy. There was recognition voiced that criteria should be developed to determine the parameters of participation at each level. The group also recognized that decision-making processes could be hampered if the group became too large.

B. Compact Operations: Decision-making

What type of decision-making would work for the group?

Several decision-making/voting approaches were considered. Discussion highlights:

- Size of the group presents challenges to making decisions, but it does give more power and voice to minority groups. What percent agreement constitutes a consensus?
- The Yahara WINS model of decision making works well. Discussion and information sharing occurs within the larger group, but an executive committee (Compact “partners” in this case) makes decisions by simple majority. Sense of the group is taken into account.
- Some decision-making approaches formally recognize minority opinions and that could be useful.
- Nature of the Compact calls for consensus, but that can be challenging with diverse groups. Consensus is the most appropriate method and goal.
- Need more clarity on when partners are going to be voting and what will they be voting on.
- There is a need for a deliberative body (the partners and collaborators) and an executive body (the partners). A “sense of the group” approach can be used with the larger, deliberative body, and then the voting partners can move action forward.

IV. Next Steps

ACTION ITEM: *Steering Team members approved the idea of forming two subgroups that will meet and develop proposals to bring to the 11/8 meeting. Clean Lakes Alliance will convene both subgroups.*

Additional Participants Subgroup

Charge: *Recommend additional partners and/or collaborators to invite as Compact participants based on developed criteria.*

- **Members:** Brenda Gonzalez, Martye Griffin, Greg Fries, James Tye, Mark Reidel

Decision-making Subgroup

Charge: *Recommend the approach the group will use to make decisions.*

- **Members:** Anne Baranski, Dave Merritt, Tricia Gorby, Mike Rupiper, James Tye

Next meetings:

November 8, 2019, 8:30-10:00 a.m. (Level C Conference Room @ Verex Plaza)

December 6, 2019, 8:30-10:00 a.m. (3rd Floor Isthmus Room @ Verex Plaza)