

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee

For Wed., August 31st, 2011 @ 4:00 PM in the Library Program Room
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Peter Jensen, Karin Nelson, Secretary Ginny Gassman, Paul Ardito, Al Hoch, Paul Daisy

Members Absent: Susan Connolly, Brian Litkof

Others: Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 4:00PM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Al moved to approve the minutes of Aug. 15, which was seconded by Paul Ardito and unanimously approved.

II. New Business:

None.

III. Continued Business:

- **Five-Year Plan**

A plan to complete sign posting in advance of the September 7th herbicide treatment was discussed. Posting will primarily be done by Karin, Bob Gofredo, Paul Ardito, Paul Daisy and Ginny. Ginny is to send the weed watchers the list of streets that still needs volunteers for posting. Posting is to be completed before Wednesday.

The bill from ACT for fall treatment will be \$53K.
Spring treatment was \$27.5K

Amy Smagula will take care of the request for the grant funds for next year.

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- **Lake Hosts:**

Paul Ardito completed a survey of the lake hosts. Most people thought we didn't need two people on duty at a time. Most believed we should stay with 4 hour shifts. Recruiting should be handled later in order to get college students.

- **Weed Watchers**

No report.

- **Tri-Town DASH Initiative**

Al reported that we might not be able to complete all the hand pulling.

AB Aquatics is using their own DASH. It seems that they are the most effective in the amount of milfoil pulled.

We will use all 60 days of DASH and with that there is a possibility we might not complete all DASH areas identified. The committee discussed the possibility of asking AB Aquatics to use their smaller DASH, in which case they could complete harvesting at Suissevale Marina.

If we can get an estimate of what additional funds for hand pulling would be required in order to complete 100% of the harvesting, Peter will go to the Select Board to request approval for the extra needed.

During Steamboat Week we will need to move the DASH boat to States Landing. This is approximately Sept. 8 through 18.

Wed, Thurs, Friday during treatment week Sept. 7-9, Aqualogic will not be pulling milfoil. Peter has received a packet from Aqualogic with the data they have been keeping.

Reminder - when we count the results of the hand pulling, we should try to do it the same way with each diver company so factor back in the debris one of the vendors has been separating.

The following is a summary of harvesting expenses:

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- \$25K for hand pulling(unless more is authorized)
- \$72K for DASH(unless more is authorized).

The committee may want to add \$10-12K to the DASH and hand pulling budget to complete 100%.

The committee would like to spend \$10-12K for surveying if possible. The committee discussed when the best time to survey would be, spring or fall? Surveying this fall would give us the ability to apply for grants/ town budget. Some have said that there will be a big difference in milfoil growth between spring and fall.

Paul D. made a motion to ask the Select Board to approve the funds to conduct an underwater survey for milfoil with defined results, to begin with 3 areas, at depths beyond which a surface survey can be taken, not to exceed 20 days or \$15K. All seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Peter will go to the Select Board with the reasons why we want to fund this:

- To provide data for planning next year's budget
- To investigate our suspicion that milfoil is growing at unseen depths
- To provide data for harvesting
- To make sure our harvesting work is not threatened by unknown infested areas which will spread.

The characteristics of the survey are:

- Deep water
- Defined areas
- Cap the number of days

Results wanted:

- Location coordinates
- Bottom type (rocky / clay / loose)
- Milfoil levels/density
- Special conditions (rocks/ underwater trees)
- Native vegetation and how thick is it if obvious

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Suggestions for areas to be surveyed are: Lee's Mills, Green's Basin, and Blackey's Cove.

Amy has said Milfoil will grow up to 25ft. - will grow as deep as there is light penetration – and is dependent on water clarity.

Paul D. has not gotten an answer as to whether dead plants should be pulled up – are the plants growing back? He suggested developing a test area, picking an area that was chemically treated. The test would be to clean up the dead plants for half of the area and compare whether this half is clearer of milfoil regrowth. An appropriate area near Pinehurst Island could be done. Paul is to write up the test proposal.

A motion was made by Paul A. to ask the Select Board to reimburse Al for the monies he has expended in moving the DASH units and printing the maps. This was seconded by Ginny, and unanimously approved (Al abstained.)

IV. Other

The next meeting is Monday Sept 14, at 4pmin the Moultonborough Library Back Room.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chair