

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee

For Mon., August 8th, 2011 @ 6:30 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: Art Lively; Dawne Litterst, Bev Nelson, Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 6:30 PM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Correction to last minutes - change pale to pail in the following sentence:
Karin has found 17 to 60 plants per pale.

Al moved to approve the minutes of June 25th, 2011 with the above correction. The motion was seconded by Karin and unanimously approved.

II. New Business:

III. Continued Business:

- **Five-Year Plan**

Diver Bob Patterson and Al Hoch investigated the milfoil at Middle Brook (aka the Canal). Bob P. recommended multiple herbicide applications here. Middle Brook has been recommended by Amy Smagula (DES) to be hand pulled. Bob Goffredo has seen a lot of milfoil coming back at Balmoral.

There are two areas in Shannon Brook with milfoil, but it is very shallow. Blueberry Cove has been recommended for herbicide by Amy.

The financial situation:

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As we entered 2011 we had \$50-55K left in the trust fund. We appropriated \$200K for 2011. A quick check of this year's expenditures looks like we may have \$75-80K left over for 2012. There are also matching state funds up to \$26K.

The committee discussed the total charges for spring 2011 treatment. There was:

- \$19K for herbicide application
- \$3-4K additional charges expected for residual testing
- \$2.5K for notification

Finances for fall 2011 herbicide treatment:

117 acres is now recommended by Amy Smagula. The herbicide application would cost approximately \$41K, notification \$3.5K to \$5.5K, residual treatment testing approximately \$4.5K. The total is about \$50K. This treatment will be approximately \$460 an acre. If we add 30 acres per Al Hoch surveying, it would come out at approximately 147 acres for \$64K.

190 acres of herbicide in year two falls is a bit below the original estimate (includes 43 acres spring treatment + 147 acres fall treatment). Last year we treated about 350 acres with herbicide. Original estimate was about 70% of first year herbicide need in year two (245 acres).

Paul D. will discuss with Amy the latest changes in the proposal from 63 acres to 117.5 acres recommended for herbicide treatment. Al will be sending Amy our maps that include some additional areas suggested for herbicide.

We have expended about half of the DASH and Hand Pull dollars budgeted (\$20K Hand Pull + \$72K Dash). Early in the year there was an IMA charge assessed to the three towns of roughly \$2K each. Our Lake Host program will expend about \$8K.

Next year's budget:

Peter wants to start thinking about next year's budget.

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Al suggested next year we want divers in the water to do surveys for us since their surveys are so much more accurate.

Is 2,4-D any less effective in deeper water? Committee members think they were told it was effective in up to 25 ft of water. The clay pellets will sink down and be effective as long as there isn't a current.

Paul D. to ask again for clarification.

Almost everyone we talk to says the areas treated are "much, much" better than previous to the treatment.

- **Lake Hosts:**

The Lake Hosts program is running smoothly. Bev suggested next year we might get more volunteers if we had 2 hour shifts instead of 4 hours shifts.

- **Weed Watchers**

Ginny sent an email call for volunteers to the Senter Cove Assoc and Balmoral. A few more volunteers have been trickling in this month. Most weed watchers have not been any more precise in their feedback since we ask them to use the Level definitions.

- **Tri-Town DASH Initiative**

6000 gallons have been harvested as of today; this is approximately 45K root balls.

There are four DASH areas left, approximately 8 days. There are 25-30 days of DASH available to us. Peter believes we will only have to pay for what we will use. Bob Patterson's contract is says "up to 30 days."

Al believes both DASH boats will be running throughout the remainder of the season.

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More hand pull time is needed than DASH, but there are more DASH funds available. Peter asked the committee if we should be asking to the Selectboard to re-adjust the funds between hand pulling and DASH.

Two of the hand pull companies have not been up and running because of insurance problems or non-responsiveness.

Effectiveness of DASH:

Bob Patterson has said he gets 80% of milfoil in a spot and then recommends that they hit the same area again later in the same season to get the rest.

Effectiveness of Herbicide treatment:

Al has discussed with the divers that the leftover plants from an herbicide treatment need to be cleaned up because they can re-grow the next year. Peter and Paul D. had understood from the biologists that the herbicide will kill the plants and they will never grow again. Paul will email Marc Bellaud and Amy Smagula to get clarification on the question. Also, does the dead milfoil put nutrients into the lake?

IV. Other

The next meeting is Monday August 15th in the Moultonborough Library Back Room at 6:00 PM.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chair