

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee

For Thursday, April 12, 2012 @ 5:00 PM in the Library Program Room
Meeting Minutes

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

Members Absent: Sue Connolly, Brian Litkoff, Paul Ardito

Others Present: John Jude, Russ Lunt, Bob Patterson, Joela Henriquez, Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 5:00 PM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Bev moved to approve the minutes of March 26, 2012. The motion was seconded by Karin and passed unanimously.

II. New Business:

Russ Lunt reported on an area of milfoil not far from his island which is near Clement Rd. He has been added to the milfoil interest list and will be a weed watcher. Russ said the milfoil committee in Alton has looked into areas where netting can be set up to trap fragments that are collecting. Bev said the area in Lee's Pond where netting has been set up requires a lot of maintenance to unclog the milfoil and other plant material that collects.

Late in the season the plants fragment, break and then spread. Russ suggested that in the late season where the fragmentation has occurred, the DASH unit could be used to suction up the fragments. The naturally breaking fragments are most likely to turn into plants down the road.

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Russ said there is stream in Paugus Bay that's full of milfoil. Al suggested it could be animals that take the milfoil upstream.

Russ reported that on Moosehead Lake in ME you must have a milfoil sticker on your boat.

III. Continued Business:

• **Five-Year Plan**

Paul sent an email to Amy to find out when she will begin surveying and the status of the underwater equipment for surveying that DES is working on.

The grant money from the state has been received from the town but the town has not yet deposited the money into the trust fund.

Members of the committee report that the abutters' letter did indicate that not all areas on the map would necessarily be treated.

• **Lake Hosts:**

No Report.

• **Weed Watchers**

Bev sent out an email to the weed watchers and received a few responses. She began calling the lake associations. She is scheduled to present at the Hemlock Harbor Association meeting, Braun Bay, as well as the Balmoral association meeting, so far.

She is asking weed watchers for weed sighting and progress reports as well – are the weeds less or more than last year?

Bob Paterson of AB Aquatics has asked Bev to have the weed watchers report on the bottom type.

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Bev said the color of weed markers should be pink or orange. If they are yellow they look like lilies. They should be dropped a half kayak-length away from a plant so they don't get tangled with the plant. Also, don't put the markers out until a day or two before the harvesting. Put one marker in the middle of a big patch. Bev will ask what kind of boat weed watchers used because if it's a kayak it's very likely there is more milfoil than was spotted.

Bev is expecting to get new weed watcher kits from Amy next week.

- **Tri-Town DASH Initiative (Joint Board)**

Al suggested to the Joint Board that one of the DASH units have rails left down so that there is less danger of milfoil fragments washing over into the water. He also suggested the committee could save money by not having the hangers over the side.

AB Aquatics has not signed the agreement with NH Lakes as reported in the last minutes because the contract has a 60-day out clause. Bob is working with Carter to get a cancelation policy that is acceptable to both. This change will go back to the Joint Board.

AB Aquatics pre-harvest survey

Bob Paterson explained that a two day pre-harvest survey will save time because we will be able to schedule his equipment and different crews more efficiently. He looks at the nature of the bottom and the density of the infestation. He will survey areas where we know there has been milfoil. He could also make a determination of what areas it would be advantageous to get into early because of the lake level or other types of vegetation that would impede the harvesting later in the summer. Bob will use the survey information to create the harvesting plan with Al.

Al moved that we approve two days for AB Aquatics to do a preliminary survey for developing a harvesting plan. The motion was seconded by Karin and passed unanimously.

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AB Aquatics will start diving when the water temperature is 50 degrees or higher.

AT this point the plan is to use approximately 30 days of the tri-town DASH boat. It should be used in an area of a lot of milfoil because it is more difficult to move than the other boat options.

IV. Other

The next meeting is Friday, April 27th, at 10 AM in the Moultonborough Library Program Room.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chair