

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee

For Thursday, December 20, 2012 @ 9:30 AM in the Life Safety Building Training Room

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Secretary Ginny Gassman, Al Hoch, Karin Nelson, Bev Nelson, Paul Daisy; Paul Ardito

Members Absent: Sue Connolly, Brian Litkoff, Chairman Peter Jensen

Others Present: None

The meeting began at 9:35 AM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Paul A. moved to approve the minutes of November 16, 2012. The motion was seconded by Karin and passed unanimously.

II. New Business:

The committee discussed whether we should do something at the town meeting to solicit volunteers. Paul A. suggested completing the brochure previously discussed. Bev said she got more volunteers from the newspaper article than from last year's town meeting.

Paul will work with the town to make sure the volunteer list they publish includes the milfoil committee volunteer needs.

Karin reiterated that the milfoil committee web page is hard to find.

Paul D. suggested we make a statement in the town meeting to solicit volunteers, saying that volunteers keep the costs down.

The DES plus some committee members surveyed Garland Pond. Samples were subsequently DNA tested and found to be native milfoil

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not variable milfoil. Native Milfoil is not an invasive species, so no action needs to be taken.

III. Continued Business:

• **Five-Year Plan**

The grant process is underway and Carter Terenzini, Moultonborough Town Administrator has been contacted by Amy Smagula, DES. Peter and Paul D. are tracking the process.

The milfoil control trust fund funding request for next year in the grant article will be \$195K.

• **Lake Hosts:**

No report.

• **Weed Watchers**

No report.

• **Tri-Town DASH Initiative (MJB)**

Al presented the committee with the comparison of the tri-town DASH boats versus the AB Aquatics boats. Moultonborough has different requirements than other towns.

Some of the issues of the Tri-town boat are:

- The tri-town boat is larger and heavier.
- It includes a 24 hp suction motor with side discharge that tends to move the boat broadside.
- This boat requires pole anchors to keep it from moving, which results in spinning and rocking in rough water areas.
- This boat works better for Wolfeboro because they have heavy infestation and tend to stay in one spot.

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- The boat is not good for shallow water because the discharge is strong and creates silt.
- The Tri-town boat works well for level 3 infestations. Where you sit and work for several hours.

The AB aquatics boat is different as follows:

- The AB aquatics boat uses a much lower power suction motor, and is more suited to the frequent moves required during milfoil harvesting in Moultonborough.
- It does not require pole anchors, which don't work well in the hard bottom and rocks often encountered in Moultonborough.
- The smaller boat is easier to maneuver in tight areas such as Suissevale.

Al presented a spread sheet that showed all the locations in which AB Aquatics used their own boat. Some areas are too deep and the pole anchors won't touch the bottom.

Conclusion: We'd have to strip the hardware off the tri-town boat, strip the flooring, add a center basket and replace the suction motor, shorten the hose, use smaller anchors in order to effectively use this boat for Moultonborough milfoil harvesting.

Al's spreadsheet shows an estimate of 50 days in which we could use the tri town boat if it was re-configured compared to 20-30 days if it was left as is.

The tri-town committee will decide on how to use the boats, based on the cost of the reconfiguration versus the boat usage.

Wolfeboro has brought their costs down dramatically with the use of the boat compared to using the boat of their main vendor.

There is going to be another subcommittee that will be looking into fees to make more money for the joint board. There is one member from each town.

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One possibility the joint board discussed was selling one tri-town boat.

There were bids submitted to NH lakes for vendor price increases; AB Aquatics had submitted a request for a 5% increase.

If AB Aquatics does not come back next year, the committee will have to scramble to select another vendor. The committee will need to hear from them before deciding on next steps. Al will be meeting with them at the end of the month. Al will provide an update to the committee when he has information.

IV. Other

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan 31st, 2013 at 9:30 am in the Life Safety Building Training Room.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman