

Conservation Commission  
**Milfoil Committee**

For Wed., January 29, 2014 @ 9:30 AM in the Public Safety Building Training Room

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Chairman Peter Jensen, Secretary Ginny Gassman, Al Hoch, Bev Nelson, Karin Nelson, Cathy Cunningham, Paul Ardito, Scott Bartlett

**Members Absent:** Paul Daisy

**Others Present:** None

The meeting began at 9:35 AM.

**Agenda**

**I. Approval of Minutes:**

Al moved to approve the minutes of January 9th as written. The motion was seconded by Paul A. and passed unanimously.

For this meeting, Cathy Cunningham was seated in place of the absent Paul Daisy.

**II. New Business:**

There are a few new recruits including Brian Litkoff and John Skelton, who are divers interested in weed watching.

Bev passed out a schedule for letters to the editor. The letters are for the purpose of making sure citizens are aware of the importance of funding milfoil control efforts. The committee made a few changes to the schedule. Bev and Karin will send out the revised schedule and talking points to the letter writers. Letters should be submitted between Wednesday and Friday before the target date for the Laconia Sun, three days before the target date for the Meredith News.

The town meeting is Saturday, March 15; the election is Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Peter has spoken with Erin Plummer of the Meredith News about interviewing Bob Reynolds of the Milfoil Coalition about the effort to pass legislation that raises more money from boat registrations for milfoil control.

**Conservation Commission**  
**Milfoil Committee**

For Wed., January 29, 2014 @ 9:30 AM in the Public Safety Building Training Room

**Meeting Minutes**

Members have asked friends and acquaintances to fill out the survey from the milfoil coalition.

Peter asked the committee to call representatives with the following talking points:

- Boaters we have talked to are in favor of HB 292 - reference survey in which boaters are willing to pay \$10
- It is reasonable for the state to take responsibility for waters it owns and regulates
- The Town of Moultonborough has supported funds for milfoil control over the last 4 years
- The increase is a drop in the bucket equivalent to the cost of two cups of coffee
- The portion of the boat registration that goes to milfoil control would go from \$7.50 to \$ 9.50. In the current \$7.50 less than \$2 goes to removal/control, most of the rest of it goes to R&D and prevention.
- The increase would be used for grants which have a 30 or 40 percent match. Currently grant money consists of about 20% of the \$1 million spent on mitigation per year.

The following are the reps to contact:

Glenn Cordelli 271-3334; [glenn.cordelli@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:glenn.cordelli@leg.state.nh.us)

Karel Crawford 271-3536; [karel.crawford@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:karel.crawford@leg.state.nh.us)

Donald Wright 271-3125; [ted.wright@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:ted.wright@leg.state.nh.us)

Jeb Bradley 271-8472; [jeb.bradley@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:jeb.bradley@leg.state.nh.us)

Al passed out information on what the state rules are regarding removal of native plants, should any constituents ask.

### **III. Continued Business:**

- **Five-Year Plan**

There has been no feedback about the grant money and bids for next year.

There is a proposal to do shoals with Diquat first and then 2,4-D second for the spring herbicide treatment. This is being discussed with Marc Bellaud of Aquatic Control Technology. Peter will send out the bid for circulation to the committee members.

**Conservation Commission**  
**Milfoil Committee**

For Wed., January 29, 2014 @ 9:30 AM in the Public Safety Building Training Room

**Meeting Minutes**

Al passed out a list of the handpicking locations to start the year. Handpicking will begin around June 15<sup>th</sup>.

The committee believes there will be 80-100 diver days this year. Last year there were 84.

- **Lake Hosts:**

Cathy will send out an email to the lake hosts to inquire if they have friends that would like to get involved. All committee members should be looking for volunteers.

Al asked if a volunteer flyer could be put in the herbicide notification. Peter believes this is not allowed.

Talking to people one-on-one has been found to be the best way to recruit volunteers.

Paul will talk to the superintendent to see if we can recruit teachers for summer help.

Paul A. will meet with the Balmoral board, again.

When Paul submits the paperwork for the grant this year, he will put in for a fourth ramp. People will be swapped around so that we cover the Balmoral ramp more, perhaps the Long Island ramp less.

Lake Host training is targeted for Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Cathy trains volunteers locally, but paid lake hosts go to Concord for training. The committee decided that it will be good to have the weed watchers and Lake Host training on the same day. There will be another weed watcher training in June when more seasonal residents are in town.

Bev will be coordinating with Al on getting watchers at some of the locations that are targeted for treatment early next year. Scott suggested at the next meeting we could put out some preliminary dates, including when it would help to have initial information from weed watchers. Scott will draft schedule bullets before the next meeting.

Amy has targeted about 140 acres for herbicide this year.

- **Weed Watchers**

**Conservation Commission**  
**Milfoil Committee**

For Wed., January 29, 2014 @ 9:30 AM in the Public Safety Building Training Room

**Meeting Minutes**

Bev informed Amy Smagula (DES) and asked for her to be involved in creating the training for snorkelers and diver weed watchers. Peter suggested Al ask Bobby Patterson of AB Aquatics for any tips on methodology for weed watching while diving and snorkeling. Divers and snorkelers will need to be able to recognize the invasive weeds underwater.

- **Tri-Town DASH Initiative (MJB)**

Scott and Karin attended the latest meeting of the MJB. There is an offer in for someone to buy the DASH I boat. The group wants the selectmen in each town to be aware of the disposition of the asset before they make the agreement. The bid was for \$10,400. Scheduling with the one remaining boat is fine, with 55 days of DASH II use in the coming season. The MJB voted to sell the boat under the condition that the select boards don't have a problem with it.

The estimated cost of DASH I was about \$18,000, but there's been use and there are engine issues.

The current MJB cash balance will then increase to \$40K in the fund. It is not clear what will be done with this money. The current daily use fund is \$175 a day. Because of the above fund, this may be changed to \$100 a day. Also, for 2015, the donation each town makes may be eliminated.

#### **IV. Other**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19th, 2014 at 9:30 am in the training room at the Public Safety Building.

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman  
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen  
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman