

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wed., August 6, 2014 @ 8:30 AM @ the PSB Training Room

Members Present: Chairman Karin Nelson, Secretary Ginny Gassman, Al Hoch, Bev Nelson, Scott Bartlett, Paul Daisy, Paul Ardito

Members Absent: Cathy Cunningham, Dave Joyce

Others Present: Bob Patterson

The meeting began at 8:30 AM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Paul D. moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2014 with the correction below. The motion was seconded by Al and passed unanimously.

Page 5: Make the change - There is a parking spot near Balmoral for the "lake host," not "lake" as stated.

II. New Business

Minutes from the June 30th meeting, are to be approved at the next meeting.

Lee's Pond milfoil status: Looks good, but there are lots of floaters. Bev said there is still milfoil in spots.

Markers: for next time we make them, Karin will take a look at getting the materials cheaper. This is to be done likely in the winter.

Fall Treatment

The Fall Treatment is coming up September 7th or 8th. Al has a couple of spots marked out including Gilman Pt., Big Goodwin Island, and near Al's house.

Ginny is to send Paul an email about when we need notices and labels for the certified mailing for September.

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wed., August 6, 2014 @ 8:30 AM @ the PSB Training Room

The committee agreed, when Amy produces her September treatment map, that AI has the authority to negotiate the final details of the September treatment.

Hand pulling Status:

Hand pulling is going well. Some areas had more milfoil than expected. A lot of areas have less milfoil than expected. It may be possible to get all known milfoil treated this year.

Plants are down in the July (2-4, D) treatment areas, but we won't be able to see if plants are permanently killed until next year.

There have been 79 days of handpicking done so far. There are about 31 days left to be done as originally planned.

AI would like to ask to ask the Selectboard for approval to add an additional 25 days (\$26K) of handpicking for this year. Paul D. suggested asking the Selectboard, if, as long as we stay within our budget, can we allocate moneys for additional days of handpicking. Originally, we told the Selectboard our budget for the year was \$193K, but we reallocated between handpicking and herbicide.

Paul D. would like to establish with the Selectboard that we can spend up to the total amount in the trust fund, which is the amount of the approved warrant article plus any amounts that were carried from last year.

Bev moved that we, if necessary, go to the Selectboard and get permission to spend up to the total amount in the trust. AI seconded and it passed 6 to 1. Scott said Nay because he wanted us to have more detail about how and if we would run over the previous approved amount of \$193K.

We can ask Carter if it is necessary to ask the Selectboard to approve this within-budget change in the number of handpicking days, and if it is then Carter can present to the Selectboard.

AI reports there is still a lot of viable milfoil in the shoal areas where we treated with Diquat. AI wants to look at the options of using a barrier, and to chop off the tops of the plants to make them weaker. Leaving the milfoil there doesn't seem like a good option because the fragments will infest other areas.

According to Bob Patterson (AB Aquatics), chopping the tops at the base and vacuuming is not something that AB Aquatics has usually done. If it is done to reduce

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wed., August 6, 2014 @ 8:30 AM @ the PSB Training Room

fragmentation it might make sense, but it still takes time that could be used harvesting plants. It would need to be done for three years to possibly stress the plant and kill it. Bobby wonders if the economics of it makes sense. The committee discussed testing this in the shoal area off Suissevale.

It was decided that the experiments make more sense to do next year, because it would take organizing with Amy, working out which barriers would be used, finding the right test site, and making sure we take a fresh site that hasn't been treated so far.

Lake Host Program

Paul Ardito reported status on the lake host program. There have not been many saves this year. The lake seems to be clean.

The Balmoral experiment will not be repeated next year.

The paid lake hosts are really good again, and are all committed for next year. We will have to go into a "full court press" for recruiting volunteers for next year.

Paul A. has received the signs for posting at the ramps: Scott suggested Harilla Landing and Crosswinds as potential locations for the sign "Clean Boats/ Clean Waters."

Karin proposed a project to get a list of all the boat ramps, so we could figure out which other ramps need signs. Scott suggested we put a sign at the range way near Trexler's Marina. Scott will start a list of ramps and whether there are signs. Paul suggested the route 25 Kanosatka launch should have a sign.

Long Island launch last weekend was very busy and Paul D. said it was impressive that all the boaters already knew about milfoil.

Weed Watcher Status:

Al has 3 or 4 different areas that he wants to have surveyed using divers.

The committee authorized Al to complete up to a day of survey work if necessary.

Weed Watcher training needs to be organized. First we direct the students to the training video, then follow up with a one-on-one or group meeting, hand them a markers and the weed watcher's notebook.

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wed., August 6, 2014 @ 8:30 AM @ the PSB Training Room

III. Old Business

Al would like to make the tracking areas smaller and more specific as follows:

- Lee's Mills, cove only on Loon Center side
- Salmon Meadow Cove, fingers only
- Balmoral to Whaleback Island changed to just Balmoral.

Paul D. will ask ACT if it is ok to remove signs for the June treatment.

IV. Old Action Items:

A17: Scott will work with Amy to get Harilla and Balmoral ramps posted with the state milfoil warnings. Update: The signs have arrived. Ongoing. See above.

A20: Committee members brought materials to make markers: Each member is to grab a bag for making them. The orange markers should be 12-13ft, and the red are (9-10 ft). Update: Done.

A21: Karin will discuss this further with Amy, in order to have a program in shallow water for harvesting. Status: ongoing

A22: Paul D. will ask Amy if trimming the tops is a good idea, as well as if the plants spread by root. Status: discussed, see above

A23: Paul A. will send Ginny a request for more volunteers for lake hosts to be sent out to her "interest list" distribution list. Status: postponed

V. Other Business

None.

VI. New Action Items

A24: Markers: for next time we make them, Karin will take a look at the getting the materials cheaper, likely in the winter.

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wed., August 6, 2014 @ 8:30 AM @ the PSB Training Room

A25: Experimentation with barriers and chopping the tops of plants: It was decided this make more sense to do next year, because it would take organizing with Amy, working out which barriers would be used, finding the right test site, and making sure we take a fresh site that hasn't been treated so far.

A26: Scott will start a list of ramps and whether there are signs at them.

A27: Karin to ask Carter if it is necessary to ask the Selectboard to approve this within budget change in the number of handpicking days, and if it is then Carter can present to the Selectboard.

VII. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wed. September 24, at 8:30 AM in the training room at the Public Safety Building.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman

Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Karin Nelson

Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman