

Conservation Commission

Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wednesday, September 30th, 2015 @ 8:30 AM @ the Moultonborough Public Library

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

Members Absent: Dave Joyce, Paul Daisy

Others Present: Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 8:35 AM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Bev moved to approve the minutes of 8/26/15 which was seconded by Paul A. and passed unanimously.

II. New Business

- Sept Herbicide: The treatment occurred on September 22nd. Karin received a call from a person on Ganzy Lane who was concerned about the water. He was provided water by Suissevale, which was arranged by Karin. ACT provided orange posters to distinguish from last treatment's posters which were yellow. We were a little bit short on the numbers of posters. In about two weeks we should know the results of the current testing.
- DES grants, mappings: The grant process was started. Amy received the application that Karin filled out. The Lee's Pond surveying has been done already. Amy said Lee's Pond looks fabulous and we won't need an herbicide treatment next year. She estimated twelve days of hand pulling could work in Lee's Pond next year. Amy said the surveillance vessel that DES designed did not work out, so it was disassembled. They use sonar for surveying but it does not always distinguish between types of plants. The snorkeling and pulling by wading program for shallow water is being entertained by DES.
- Weed watchers: Bob Patterson (AB Aquatics) says markers are far preferable to help the hand pullers find milfoil. GPS points are great for getting the boat to the general area. The committee discussed if we should we be getting weed watchers to use markers. The

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issue is to put the markers out at the appropriate time before ABA works an area. How do we mark individual plants? How can we get markers out at the right time? The committee will consider this more over the winter.

Bev is to plan a day on the water with weed watchers to help them learn to spot the plants.

- QC: Preliminary gallons of milfoil harvested out of Lee's Pond: 3K, out of Winnie: 11K. Karin will send an email about our response to questions about native plants. Ginny to put on web site.
- DASH work: Karin negotiated with ABA about adding a diver for \$550 per day. The price is now \$426 per day.

Al reviewed his report and handouts with the group. Al is seeing general trends per area. After there is an herbicide treatment, there is a lull in milfoil growth for two years and then in year three the milfoil comes back to some extent.

The group discussed the five key areas where we believe we've completed the maximum possible treatment through herbicide or hand harvesting or both. 2015 will be established as our baseline that 90% of the milfoil has been harvested in these areas. In fact, Al believes we have cleared all 24 defined zones this year. Al handed out four notebooks that document the zones. The committee thanked Al for his complete and detailed work. Members will study the information and ask any questions next time.

- Accounting: Karin reviewed the finances with her handout. Karin is reconciling the year-to-year numbers.
- Start Budget: The committee defined the rough 2016 budget, as follows:

Herbicide:	\$75K
Harvest Lee's Pond:	\$20K
Harvest Winnepesaukee:	\$150K
Lake Host Program:	\$8K
Water Testing:	\$7K
Misc:	\$2K
Total:	\$262K

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This is a worst case scenario, and we have money in the trust fund, so we will use \$240K for requesting money from the Select Board, which is flat with respect to this year.

Scott Bartlett moved that we ask for a warrant article budget of \$240K, seconded by Paul A. and approved unanimously.

- Any end of year reports that are ready
The group will work on the end of year summary report: each committee leader will send a blurb into Karin and Karin and Scott will edit the report.
- Test spots
Curtain: One area near rocks inside the curtain did not receive herbicide. Another area was covered by the curtain because of the wave action. So there is milfoil growing inside the curtain.

Benthic barrier: The 10x8 barrier was too small for the area. Al reported that we vacuumed the area at Amy's suggestion. We'll find out if stressing the roots helped by reducing the number of gallons that need to be harvested next year. The area around the benthic barrier was vacuumed twice.
- Track historical data: The committee discussed which documents will go on the archival server at the town hall. Documents include: the end of year reports, Al's reports and maps, some of Peter's data, the activities list, and summary reports. Ginny will give Al a thumb drive for maps. File names will begin with the appropriate year (ex. 2015).
- Other Business
Fertilizer Educational Program. Ginny to research what regulations actually exist with respect to using fertilizer near the lakes.

Scott suggested sitting with the new T.A. to discuss how we've been doing things.

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ACTION ITEMS

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

A35: Ginny will ask Bill G. to make graphs of historical data for the web site. Ongoing

A42: Ginny to add to the Activities List: submit people to be invited to the volunteer luncheon in August.

A43: The committee will work on how to have weed watchers indicate milfoil with markers – All

A44: Karin will send an email about our response to questions about native plants. Ginny to put info on web site.

A45: Committee to study Al's maps and be ready with questions at next meeting – All

A46: Ginny is to put Al's maps on the archival server at the town hall

A47: Fertilizer educational Program. Ginny to research what regulations actually exist with respect to using fertilizer near the lakes.

V. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov 4th, 2015 at 8:30 AM at the Moultonborough Public Library

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Karin Nelson
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman