

Conservation Commission

Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wednesday, March 2nd, 2016 @ 8:30 AM @ the Moultonborough Public Library

Members Present: Chairman Karin Nelson, Al Hoch, Ginny Gassman, Amy Lindamood, Scott Bartlett, Bev Nelson, Tracy Waterman

Others Present: Walter Johnson

Members Absent: Dave Joyce, Paul Ardito

The meeting began at 8:34 AM.

Agenda:

- 1- Minutes: Amy made a motion to accept the minutes with the changes below, Bev seconded, and they were approved unanimously. The minutes should include: "Walter Johnson said the AB Aquatics contract would be signed after the town meeting."
- 2- DASH vendor for 2016: In January we got the bid from AB Aquatics, we discussed the price and we discussed 3-yr contract. Then the bid/grant information from DES came with Aqualogics being the lower bid and therefore selected. Grant rates were based on Aqualogics low bid.

Aqualogics and AB Aquatics submitted statements about their companies to Karin, which she read at the meeting. Karin had called Aqualogics references. She also did some work to calculate the metric of \$ per gallon of milfoil harvested for both companies. Unfortunately, there are several other factors related to this metric, such as density of milfoil in the area harvested, percent of milfoil in the gallons, that we could not be sure of in order to compare the companies. Also, it makes a difference as to who is doing the measuring, our QC person or the vendor. The data was all over the map and didn't show any trends.

Several years ago, the committee did a comparison between NE Milfoil, Aqualogics and AB Aquatics. Amy suggested we needed to further evaluate Aqualogics in order to do due diligence for the tax payer. Scott said we should evaluate using our QC procedure. The committee discussed the QC procedures and how they could work in a comparison.

Karin said ABA has always done a great job for us.

Al said he had asked John Jude (of Aqualogics) how the OSHA laws were affecting his company and John replied that he could not afford to keep two people on deck. When they reach a site, and the diver is in the water, the second person goes off in a kayak to search.

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Amy questioned whether the town has risk if the vendor doesn't comply with OSHA when they say they do. Walter stated that we are not risking liability due to OSHA because the contract from Aqualogics states that they comply with OSHA. Scott says OSHA compliance can be verified during our evaluation.

Karin suggested that we have Aqualogics work Lee's Pond under her supervision and leave Winnepesaukee to AB Aquatics. The downside to this is there is only one type of bottom on Lee's Pond, not the rocky bottom in some sites of Winnepesaukee.

Walter suggested focusing on the number of days (not locations) to break between ABA and Aqualogics.

Al asked if John Jude is aware of our reporting requirements. Karin said no, but he said the QC requirements were not a problem.

Scott made a motion to trim the proposed ABA contract to up to 115 days of work, to reduce the contract to 1-yr while asking them to hold the 3-yr price, and to give up to 15 days of work to Aqualogics for making a comparison between vendors. Al recused himself. Amy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Karin will talk to the two vendors. The vendors will need to send us revised contracts. Karin will make sure John Jude is aware of our reporting requirements.

The committee will review metrics and QC data in order to complete the vendor comparison plans. Plans will include evaluating OSHA compliance.

3- Town meeting display table update:

Al made some great charts for the town meeting. Ginny will get a picture board and organize the handouts. Amy L. will gather up handouts and board at the end of the meeting.

4- Double check boat launch signage for Pat Tarpey:

Pat Tarpey (Lake Winnepesaukee Assoc.) would like to get a list of boat launches and what signage is at each launch. Homework for everyone is to email Ginny about any boat launch we know of and any rangeways. We will try to ask the state to provide us with a list of the private launches. Our target is high usage ramps. The committee should also email any Lake association names and contact info to Ginny

5- GPS workshop.

Bev has been asked to do a ½ day session for VLAP training on how to use GPS for marking milfoil. She will work with Al and maybe Bill Gassman on this training.

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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. Latest update: Bob Paterson said he would follow up on shallow water pulling.
- A42: Ginny to add to the Activities List: submit people to be invited to the volunteer luncheon in August.
- A48: Amy L. will send an email to Bob Wolff to see if there has been any progress on whether the notice language can be changed. – ongoing
- A50: Ginny to talk to Alison about how to link about the fertilizer use info to web the site. – ongoing
- A51: Ginny to draft a letter to the editor re: fertilizer. Spring. (Also for native plants.)
- A52: Amy L. to get clarification from the Dept. of Agriculture on why so much sampling was done without notice. Ongoing
- A55: Karin will organize making 150 markers.
- A56: Al to work on projected treatment list.
- A57: Amy will get in touch with Solitude (ACT) to update on the tax map. Supposedly the same players are involved at Solitude.
- A58: Initiate grant application for Lake Host program - Karin to ask Paul Ardito about this.
- A59: Spring newsletter: will go out in late may. Cutoff date is mid may. Scott suggested this is a good idea because it's contact with our wider summer audience. Scott will draft something.
- A60: Bev to update the website.
- A61: The committee will review metrics and QC data in order to complete the vendor comparison plans. Plans will include evaluating OSHA compliance.
- A62: Homework for everyone is to email Ginny about any boat launch we know of and any rangeways. We will try to ask the state to provide us with a list of the private launches. Our target is high usage ramps. The committee should also email any Lake association names and contact info to Ginny

III. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016 at 8:30 AM at the Town Hall.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Karin Nelson
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman