

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee Minutes

For Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016 @ 8:30 AM @ the Moultonborough Town Hall

Members Present: Chairman Karin Nelson, Al Hoch, Ginny Gassman (by phone), Amy Lindamood, Scott Bartlett, Bev Nelson (by phone), Dave Joyce, Paul Ardito

Others Present: Walter Johnson, Paul Daisy, Bob Goffredo

Members Absent: Tracy Waterman

The meeting began at 8:35 AM.

Agenda:

1. Minutes: The minutes of March 2nd, 2015 were accepted unanimously as published.
2. Associations List: Karin spoke to Theresa Eichhorn of the Hermit Cove Assoc., who has agreed to work on the list of Moultonborough lake associations. We will contact her with a spreadsheet that details the kind of information we will want to collect. If any of us have info on associations we should give the info to Theresa directly.
3. Update on all three contracts: ACT has provided their contract, which is the same as before. Karin gave them the feedback that we would be doing only two treatments. Walter will sign the contract on the 7th.

We are still waiting on ABA to change 3-yr to 1-yr. Paul asked why not go ahead with the 3-yr contract because we didn't guarantee any number of days anyway? The committee discussed if it was implied that ABA would be the sole vendor for that three years.

We are OK with the Aqualogics contract.

4. We got a lake host grant but it was less than we had hoped for. Paul has agreed to follow up until Tracy can take over. Paul is concerned about the availability of volunteers. Last year with 3500 inspections, 11 boats had weeds. We didn't staff Balmoral because we had no cooperation from the association. The committee discussed cutting back a bit more because we have gotten the word out in previous years and there are not that many saves.
5. Five Yr plan comments
Al made a small data correction which is to be given to Amy Smagula.
6. Plan for managing our 15 day comparison test
The town voted yes on the warrant article and approved our \$225K budget request. Now we need to have a plan to work without Al as project mgr. Both DASH vendors are

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anxious to get going in the middle of May. Scott and Karin had a meeting with ABA. Bob Patterson is fine with starting with Aqualogics for the first 15 days, then have ABA work after that. We as a committee would choose where both companies work. Karin said that ABA manages to work on other lakes without people who play the project manager role, although it is less efficient. Al suggested restructuring the weed watchers with a captain. Bev said it is really important that the way we manage the jobs that Al did in previous years, should be exactly the same for each vendor so that neither one has an advantage over the other.

Regarding OSHA, Walter said we don't have any responsibility to make sure the vendors comply with the law.

Scott said we need to have the same people doing the sampling on a daily basis to make sure we are acting the same with both vendors. The critical thing is to identify what are the probable areas and have the weed watchers mark them out. After the 15 days we can have Al back to work on a less intense way on the project mgmt. ABA seemed to think they could do a good job by themselves. Al said he will continue to work for ABA going forward.

Scott, Al and Karin will get together to hash out the maps. The selection of areas will be coordinated with Amy Smagula. The DES survey should be in the beginning of May. Karin asked if we would have enough weed growth by that time.

Karin reviewed the steps we will take:

- Select area with Scott and Amy S. (coached by Al)
- give vendors areas
- have weed watchers get familiar and monitor areas
- Karin suggested we do some work with a go-pro to video under water
- complete quality assurance as we always do.
- Al gave us a spreadsheet for each vendor to fill out each day that details the environment where they have been working.
- If any of us sees any OSHA problems we will note it.

7. Milfoil Committee Strategy

Paul believes we should move to a different milfoil management tactic. He said we are never going to eradicate all milfoil and suggested areas of milfoil in recreational areas and in front of homes is more important to harvest than deep areas that are hard to find. Karin said she'd like to get to the point where we don't have to do any herbicide and to get our budget down to \$50k per year. Al said with this approach (of not looking for deep patches) we will not be able to control it with \$50K per year.

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8. Amy Lindamood is doing the abutters address checking this year. Hope Kokas stepped in to the meeting and said she'd run a report to get the waterfront addresses on Winnepesaukee.

9. The next meeting is: April 20th, at 8:30 am at the Library

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 am.

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