

Town of Moultonborough

6 Holland Street • Post Office Box 139
Moultonborough, N.H. 03254
(603) 476-2347

Conservation Commission Milfoil Committee Minutes

October 5th, 2009

Members Present: Peter Jensen (Chair), Bob Boyan, Susan Connolly, Paul Daisy (Finance), Herb Farnham (LRPC), Jim Leiterman, Steven Maguire, Karin Nelson, Barbara Rando, Nancy Wright

Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association: Dean Anson (President)

Others Present: Bob Clark (ConCom Chair), Paul Schmidt (ConCom), Marie Samaha (ConCom), Robert Patenaude (ConCom), Judith Ryerson (ConCom), Cristina Ashjian, Joanne Farnham, Bob Smith, Richard Deforge, Jack Bishop, Jim Morrison, Penny Morrison, Emil Neumuller, Cherie Lee Neumuller, Edward Cammarata, Susan Cammarata, Kevin Quinlan, Frank Nigro, Richard Cunningham, Cathy Cunningham, Margie King, Bonnie Colby, Robert Neighbours, Robert Gabel, Bob Goffredo, Jim Wiedman

Meeting Location: Moultonborough Public Library

The meeting on Monday, 10/05/2009 was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Conservation Commission Chair, Bob Clark. Bob Introduced Dean Anson from the Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association. Dean Anson spoke about efforts to measure and monitor phosphorous levels in different areas of the lake. The Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association has received grants to measure and monitor in the Laconia, Gilford and Meredith areas as part of Phase one of their project. They are looking for local cooperation for Phase two which would add the Center Harbor, Moultonborough, Tuftonboro areas to their project. Long term their goal is to develop Best Practices for Land Use management for lake shore property as well as tributary areas that flow into the lake.

The DES has established standards for acceptable and unacceptable levels of Phosphorus and Chlorophyll-*a*:

	<u>Median WQ</u>	<u>Remaining AC</u>
Tier 2 (High Quality Waters):	0.0 – 7.2 ug/L	>0
Tier 1:	7.2 – 8 ug/L	-0.8 to 0
Impaired:	>8.0 ug/L	<-0.8

The Lake Winnepesaukee Watershed Association website is <http://www.winnepesaukee.org/>.

Following Dean Anson's presentation, Bob Clark announced that the Conservation Commission was forming a Milfoil Management Committee. Bob asked Peter Jensen to Chair the Committee. Bob discussed his vision for the committee as well as his vision for how membership should be organized.

Bob asked for member volunteers:

- Nancy Wright volunteered to work with the Lake Winni Watershed Assoc,
- Paul Daisy volunteered to work on Finances,
- Herb Farnham volunteered to work with the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

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Bob then took the Conservation Commission members, and people present to attend the Conservation Commission meeting, to a different location and asked Peter Jensen to run the first Milfoil Committee meeting and get additional member volunteers to fill out the committee.

Peter introduced himself.

The room was asked for more volunteers and after some discussion the group settled on an approach of getting a member from each major association or cove. We began creation of a list of Associations/coves; Suissevale, Balmoral, Greens Basin & Hanson Cove, Cranewood Shores, Bald Peak & Clarks Landing, Far Echo Harbor, West Point, Windamere, Jonathon's Landing, Hemlock Harbor, Hermit Cove, Buzzel Cove, Blackys Cove.

After discussing several of the bulleted items below, we settled on 10-12 as an effective size for the committee given work that needs to be done, normal attrition, vacations. The participants of the current meeting committed to coming to a meeting with the Selectmen on Oct. 29th to request budget consideration. We agreed to have our next meeting on Monday Oct. 19th. The group was asked for a volunteer for the secretary role – the room went quiet!

People who volunteered to serve on the Committee were Bob Boyan, Susan Connolly, Paul Daisy, Herb Farnham, Jim Leiterman, Steven Maguire, Karin Nelson, Barbara Rando, Nancy Wright.

Major points discussed were:

- Many associations and coves have current efforts underway for 2010 milfoil control. It was suggested that perhaps the committee should focus more on 2011 and beyond since it is already late in the season and may be very difficult to successfully assemble the funding requests and permit application needed for a full Moultonborough shoreline milfoil program for 2010. It was suggested that we should not do anything that might interfere with current individual association/cove efforts. This year, *requests for funding* were due by mid Sept.; *bids* due by Oct. 30th. It was suggested that we should approach the companies that do milfoil control work and ask for an estimate and timeframe to treat the entire infested Moultonborough area in Winnepesaukee.
- We discussed the salient points of DES' Amy Smugala's presentation at the previous ConCom meeting. The DES estimate for a first year treatment is a little under \$100,000 – for all the infested area bordering Moultonborough's shoreline in Lake Winnepesaukee. Their current estimate is the treatment would have to be done at close to the same level in the following year and that a reduced amount of funds would need to be spent in the third, fourth and possibly fifth year. A management plan would have to be adjusted each year based on the follow-up monitoring results of the prior year's effort. The DES does not currently believe such a control program will eliminate milfoil but believes it can be sufficient to clear enough milfoil so that the Lake remains a desirable resource for residents and tourists. Anything we do to control milfoil may have unexpected impacts so DES involvement/approval will be key.

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- It was suggested that we should consider developing a plan that is tailored to each individual cove as some coves may only need non-chemical spot treatment whereas others may need significant chemical treatment. We should consider starting with the areas that have been recently and well monitored and the association reps know what they've got to do in this upcoming year. We reinforced the need for multi-year plans and multi-year effort in order to really be effective.
- A significant source of Moultonborough's annual revenue is a direct result of the desirability of the water resources of Lake Winnepesaukee and other water bodies. Water quality was the number one concern/priority for Moultonborough in the 2006 Master Plan Survey report. The town spends significant funds on services such as roads and the library and needs to begin spending funds to protect the water resources which are the major driver of revenue for that annual spending. It was suggested that we ask the town to set up a town trust fund to provide multi-year funding needed to execute a successful plan. We must be willing to fund the protection of our water resources regardless of the levels of state or individual association funding in any particular year. We should defer to the state to help define a town-wide management plan and focus our Committee's efforts on achieving creation of a multi-year funding mechanism. We should ask Realtors in town to help describe the economic impact risks of not taking a more proactive role in controlling milfoil. We should pursue possibility of Stimulus funding.
- We need good writer(s) to develop a position paper on the town's strategy for protecting the resources.

The Meeting ended at approximately 9:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Jensen (Chair)