

Conservation Commission
Milfoil Committee

For Wed., Aug 7, 2013 @ 9:30 AM in the Life Safety Building Training Room

Meeting Minutes

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 9:30 AM.

Agenda

I. Approval of Minutes:

Al moved to approve the minutes of July 10th as written. The motion was seconded by Karin and passed unanimously.

II. New Business:

Bev was a guest on the NHPR radio show, Exchange, for a program on invasive plants and animals. You can listen to this program on the NHPR web site.

Bev, Karin, and Al went on the lake with Amy Smagula, and were trained to spot Asian clams. All you need is a 20 micron sieve. You walk along the shore in knee deep water, face the shore, dig up a sieve full of sand and pan for clams. Amy is just putting together a program to combat the potential spread of Asian clams to NH lakes. Cathy recommended selecting two paid lake hosts who would use the sieves during quiet time of their shifts. Peter doesn't see anything wrong with giving boaters information about the clams or snails. As the Milfoil Committee we're not dealing with Asian clams but we could help any group that wants to work on this to get started.

III. Continued Business:

- **Five-Year Plan**

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All water tests are clear for the first treatment on June 5th. For the July 15th treatment, Paul D. reports that ACT needs to collect the samples for water testing.

Amy was surveying recently to get ready for the fall treatment. We are hoping she looked at the results of the herbicide treatment up in Lees Mills while she was here.

Karin did not see any milfoil between the Hill's and the Hoch's along the western shoreline from Lee's Mills. Janet Frick reports milfoil on her dock. Karin will check it out.

Cathy had a conversation with Amy about the large amount of native plants, and Amy said it was a high growth year for native plants.

Al has communicated with Amy on seven or eight acre-sized areas for the fall herbicide treatment.

Permitting Process

Paul D. collected feedback from the group on the proposed change of policies for the permitting process: He is in contact with David Rousseau who will give this as outside input on the October meeting of the NH state departments involved. Dave said a formal letter is not necessary. The email Paul D. compiled will become part of the public record.

The abutters notification process is the biggest hurdle. One proposal is: the general notice would be to every person in the town, perhaps through a tax notice. The specific notices could then be placed on the person's door rather than via certified letter. This could possibly be better than a certified letter, because renters would then be informed of the treatment. This would reduce the cost and shorten the notification time. If this were implemented, then the bottleneck would only be the vendor's schedule.

A proposed change to a multi-year permit was not in this initial input, but Paul will discuss this with Dave. The state had 330 permits come before them for approval last year.

The permitting process is on the committee's agenda for October. The MMC plans to attend this meeting.

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- **Lake Hosts:**

Cathy and Peter gave Carter a report on the number of boats that came in to States Landing during Lake Host shifts.

Lake Host staffing is fine. Also, Paul A. believes the program is fine with budgeting this year.

Lake hosts pushed back on the new boater's survey because it is so long. Boaters also pushed back.

Karin suggested that the "Clean, Drain, and Dry" slogan is the most important piece of the anti-clam program. Getting a sieve is proposed, but not with milfoil money. Scott said he'd donate one for Long Island. Bev asked Amy to send her the cost of the sieve, probably under \$30. Bev will tell Amy we'll be happy to conduct weekly sieving if she would supply the sieves. Karin also suggested that NH Lakes be contacted.

Lakefest Hands Across the Water is on Saturday, September 7th – they are trying to set a world record for the number of kayaks and canoes that are tethered together. AB Aquatics will have their DASH boat in the water, as well as the tri-town DASH boat.

- **Weed Watchers**

Braun Bay weed watching was done thoroughly. There was a lot of green algae.

Bev got reports this month from the usual people, as well as some of the ones she reminded by email. Bev is planning to let the people in Salmon Meadow, Ash, and Senter Coves know that markers should be put up for handpicking next week.

Paul D. suggested if we have important areas where we need to recruit weed watchers, we could go door-to-door to recruit. He is willing to do this at Blackey Cove. Handpicking could occur there as soon as next week.

Last time Bev looked at Aubuchon, there were still plenty of markers there.

- **Tri-Town DASH Initiative (MJB)**

AB Aquatics was hand pulling at the lagoon at Ferry Shores yesterday.

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Al needs more days for hand pulling, they are down to 10. To be on the safe side, he wants to request 40 additional days. Peter will go to the selectman asking for 20 at a time.

For next week, AB Aquatics will be working with Joe Keegan on where to put the trailer. There may be another crew working hand pulling next week north of Moultonborough Neck Road. Karin will be checking with Joe K. to see if he will be doing QC there next week.

At the last tri-town meeting, Scott, Al, Peter, and Karin attended. Cater was supportive of not using NH Lakes for the bid process, instead using DES. This won't cost anything. They discussed the payment process, which involves Peter to review and authorize payment several times (for Carter, NH lakes and AB aquatics reviews). The tri-town group has agreed that NH Lakes Assoc. (and the 5% overhead) will no longer be part of the payment process. There will still be a \$175 fee for each day we will use the tri-town dash boat.

The only downside of this change is if Amy selects a low-bid vendor for us to use, and we choose to go with a different vendor then we would have to pay the difference in the price with respect to any state grant money. They might give us a little less money in a grant as it would be based on the selected vendor. Amy said she would be taking input from us on which vendors would be selected.

IV. Other

The next meeting is scheduled for Wed, August 28, 2013 at 9:30 am in the Life Safety Building Training Room.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman