

Conservation Commission  
**Milfoil Committee**

For Thurs., Dec. 4, 2013 @ 9:30 AM in the Public Safety Building Training Room

**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Members Absent:** Cathy Cunningham

**Others Present:** Bob Goffredo

The meeting began at 9:35 AM.

**Agenda**

**I. Approval of Minutes:**

Al moved to approve the minutes of Nov. 7th as written. The motion was seconded by Paul A. and passed unanimously.

**II. New Business:**

Peter reported there may be an issue with our grant for 2013. The town got a check for \$3k, he will follow up that we received the rest of the funds.

**III. Continued Business:**

• **Five-Year Plan**

Al passed out a revision of the 2013 YTD Season Summary of the Daily Milfoil report. The 2012/2013 comparison is there, but is not exactly apples-to-apples as there was emphasis on different areas of the lake in those two years. Our harvesting productivity trends were discussed, including how we could analyze Al's data.

Scott and Karin discussed ways we could try to "complete" areas so that we could develop an understanding of what it takes. Examples of areas where we have completed almost the maximum amount of harvesting at a point in time, are Lee's Pond and Lee's Mills. The committee discussed picking some areas where we can tell a good mitigation story, with pictures. For the story, the committee will line up people to communicate how bad the milfoil once was. We would like residents of the area to talk about how we are now in milfoil "maintenance" for the area. Proposed areas: Lee's Mills (Hill-Stanton), Lee's Pond (Paula Young),

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Harilla (Scott/Andy), Salmon Meadow (Joe Keegan), Balmoral (Bob. G). The question to answer is: has the area become cleaner, clearer and more usable? A handout sheet could be put out at the town meeting that would include maps and testimonials.

Amy is looking at 140 acres of potential herbicide treatment for 2014 as her estimate of the maximum we would need. The proposal is going out for bid.

The team discussed the barriers that Al mentioned in the last meeting. They would go down 5-8 ft, with some deeper ones. There is 1000 ft of material available, which at ACT's cost is \$2k, and then it would need to be installed. It would be \$4-5 per ft to install. Paul suggested we do a test in the spring, and then wait a season to do it again to make sure there is actual root kill. Al suggested we would know by the fall if there is something coming back. Paul would like to know if there is anecdotal evidence that this strategy would be successful over a period of years. Al said the barriers would be in for a week. The idea is to install it where the water column is mixing, unstable, and where the harvesting is expensive because of a lot of rocks. Al's target location is the shoals near Suissevale.

Marc suggested we try only a few locations with this strategy, until we see how it would work. The group agreed it would be worth it to try this out in the spring.

Mats – Al related that using a mat works for a while, but eventually the plants break through and the mat must be pulled up, which is very difficult once it has worked its way into the lake bottom.

- **Lake Hosts:**

Paul and Cathy gave Peter a write-up on the Lake Host status to include in the annual report.

Bob G. suggested in order to start a Lake Host program at Balmoral and Suissevale that we should ask the committees of each for approval to put a volunteer or paid Lake Host at the ramps. This would be a good location for education of boaters. Bob G. reports that he has not been able to get resident volunteers to be lake hosts there because they are largely seasonal. The volume at these ramps is very high. Scott suggested we alternate our lake hosts one week at public ramps and one week at private ramps.

- **Weed Watchers**

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Bev gave Peter a write-up to include in the annual report.

Bev will send out an email blast that will ask watchers if they know snorkelers or divers who would like to weed watch. Scott suggested we call this "in-water weed watchers". The snorkelers/divers would need to be trained and to work in a methodical way that the harvesters could trust.

Bev asked Al where we could best use divers/snorkelers in the spring.

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

Announcements have been sent that the DASH boat is for sale or lease, \$10K minimum.

There is no new information on the DES bids for the hand harvesting. AB Aquatics submitted its bid last Friday. These bids are to cover all three towns, but the towns are able to choose whichever vendor they want. State grant reimbursement will come in at the winning bid price point. This year there will be a 5% savings because NH Lakes Assoc will no longer be involved in the administration. In addition, there will be savings due to vendors using their own boats more.

#### **IV. Other**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9th, 2014 at 9:30 am in the training room at the Public Safety Building.

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Gassman  
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Secretary

Peter Jensen  
Moultonborough Milfoil Committee, Chairman