

**Conservation Commission**  
**Milfoil Committee Minutes**

For Tuesday, October 25, 2016 @ 8:30 AM @ the Moultonborough Town Hall

**Members Present:** Chairman Karin Nelson, Al Hoch, Ginny Gassman, Scott Bartlett, Amy Lindamood

**Others Present:** Rich Thorman, Walter Johnson

**Members Absent:** Paul Ardito, Dave Joyce, Bev Nelson, Tracy Waterman

1. Minutes (2 meetings): September 27 minutes: add two camps to the list, Hawkeye and Quinebargue; Scott moved to approve the minutes of September 27<sup>th</sup> as amended, Al seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

October 5<sup>th</sup> minutes, Amy moved to approve, seconded by Scott and approved unanimously.

2. Lake Host  
Tracy sent the letter to NH Lakes she was working on.

The committee discussed if there is any other reach out we can do to get more lake hosts. Karin suggested we each try to get one person. Also we discussed distributing a flyer at the town meeting. Amy suggested we could ask the boy scouts who could get a service badge, but you have to be 18 years old to be a lake host. Also if we do a camp program we could mention the opportunity.

Ginny to update the list of to-dos to include recruiting Lake Host volunteers.

3. Herbicide treatment: for the July treatment we did have to do some significant re-harvesting in some cases. Al has not had a chance to look at the areas of the September treatment.

Cost/savings: If we had put the August and September treatments together instead of separated we might have saved \$2000.

Water testing; Amy and Bev did the 4<sup>th</sup> round of water testing and it came out clear, so we can now remove signs.

4. DASH comparisons: Amy, Scott & Karin:  
The committee reviewed the data hand-out and the analysis of the subcommittee.

Meeting with vendors: the subcommittee met with each vendor for about an hour each. Aqualogic said they do survey each area prior to harvesting. In their diving, they sought areas of high growth first and tried to get as much as they could. They noted that area z9-

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s4 had more growth around the markers and acknowledged they left a lot of growth there. In z9-s5 they tried to harvest close to the dots on the map they were given.

The committee discussed if we started harvesting too early. But there is also a question about if starting later would cause other problems (flowering of plants, not enough time to finish all known areas.)

Aqualogic recommended benthic barriers. They recommended a minimum of two harvesting passes for each area during a season. They offered a ½ day of free survey time for each week of contracted dive time. Aqualogic said the saw more growth in deeper water in this growing season. They are looking into the use of drones and ROVs (Remotely Operated Vehicles) for better surveying as future technology.

AB Aquatics (ABA): They thought we didn't start too early; they want to get in early to avoid interference with native plants. ABA said it is important to revisit areas later. ABA feels they provide better equipment and better efficiency and stress the importance of completely cleaning an area. They said Al's work is really important. Hand harvesting areas that have been herbicided more than 4 times is something we might want to consider. The committee discussed that the initial herbicide application on a high density area is very beneficial. Bob would like to use the 2 diver system. He also felt the use of benthic barriers would help in some areas. Using drones is a possibility but pricy at this point.

The subcommittee told the vendors that we need bids to come into Amy Smagula (DES) and we won't make any decision until we see the bids. The subcommittee recommended that the vendors make sure they list everything they are offering, including pricing if not included. Amy has sent out the bid requests and they are due to her on October 31.

The subcommittee concluded that they don't feel the results justify a \$300/day price difference.

Karin broached the idea of using both vendors and we discussed if we had enough work.

5. Budget – The Committee discussed the work and the budget we will need for next year.
6. Future DASH plans vs. herbicide, etc.  
The committee discussed meeting with DES to discuss overall strategy in combating milfoil. The other thing discussed was whether we should have a strategy to clear as much as we can or get the most we can get out even if not clearing.
7. Karin reminded the committee that we need to prepare year end summary reports.

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**Milfoil Committee Minutes**

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8. Scott to write a letter for fish and game to suggest we should be able to harvest during the bridge shiner spawning period.

**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. Ginny to review all items on the activities list to update and follow up with Karin.

A50: Ginny to talk to Alison about how to link about the fertilizer use info to web the site. – ongoing

A63: Teresa Eichhorn is compiling a list of Lake Associations - Ongoing

A65: Amy is to put together a “how-to-use” card for “My GPS Coordinates Pro”. The weed watcher will need to indicate what level of milfoil density they are seeing.