

**Minutes  
Alton Milfoil Committee  
July 25, 2013  
Alton Town Hall, 4:00 pm**

Members Present: Ted Carl, Paul Richardson, Brian Fortier, Nancy Merrill, Bill Mannion, Joe Catudal, Nancy Downing, Jonathan Downing.

Public Present: Larry Hallin, Bill Curtin (Supt. Alton Water Works), Russ Noyes (Alton Water Works)

Guest: Amy Smagula, NH Dept. of Environmental Services

**Call to Order**

Chairman Ted Carl called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes 6/13/2013**

Bill Mannion made a motion to accept the Minutes of June 13, 2013 as written; motion was seconded by Jonathan Downing and passed.

**Old Business**

Addition of Larry Hallin to Committee Larry will get sworn in at the Town Clerk's office and was welcomed to the committee.

Results of June Treatment. P. Richardson reported: Back Bay (Rand Cove) appears to be dying. No milfoil is apparent in the vicinity of Gillan Marine and Downing's Landing. B. Mannion estimated: approximately 70 percent success rate in Parker Marine and the adjacent vicinity of the Merrymeeting River, south of the Route 11 Bridge.

Bill Curtin, speaking on behalf of the Alton Water Works, called the treatment a debacle and initially indicated: "The Water Department is never going to allow Parker Marine to be treated again." Discussion ensued.

Amy Smagula, State Limnologist for the Department of Environmental Services, arrived at the meeting at 4:20 pm, immediately after surveying Parker Marine for the results of the June treatment. In her assessment, she noted the Marina looks better, with a significant reduction of Milfoil and perhaps a 60 percent control. However, she indicated the results were not where she would have liked to see them, noting that 80 to 85 percent reduction is a good target. Amy attributed the results to the Season's weather, stating the rain event shortly after application, followed by high water, and water flow issues swept the product away and impeded its ability to be effective. Amy stated the proper procedure was followed by the applicator in all aspects, including: posting the treatment sites in a timely manner, and applying the herbicide according to direction. Following Amy's presentation, Ted Carl directed the conversation to Bill Curtin, and asked for the Water Department's reconsideration of the future herbicidal treatment of Parker Marine. It is the Milfoil Committee's position the Treatment should be allowed providing post-treatment water tests show no harm. B. Curtin indicated future treatments would be possible.

Future Merrymeeting River Treatment. Amy Smagula was asked her recommendation for Milfoil Control for the remainder of the 2013 season and for 2014. Since the 2013 Herbicide Permit allowed treatment either in the Spring or Fall, another Herbicide treatment in Parker Marine will have to wait until 2014. The strategy for the remainder of the season was outlined by Amy as follows: Amy will survey all areas within the next week or two, and will provide a map for Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) so this procedure may be scheduled anytime from mid-August to September or October. Amy made it clear, any residual funds from the Herbicide treatment could be used for the DASH endeavors. She recommended reserving some of the funds in the event it is feasible to utilize them in the Parker Marine area following a planned mid-September survey, at which time she would make a firm recommendation regarding Parker Marine. It was noted: Jone's Pond and Downing's Pond in New Durham have Milfoil and both Ponds feed the Merrymeeting Marsh; therefore, continued efforts to keep an open channel in the Merrymeeting River via DASH will be recommended.

Weed Watcher Program. Amy Smagula explained the details and benefits of the Program. Other Towns, Communities, and Associations throughout the State of New Hampshire have effectively introduced a volunteer weed watcher program where, once a month, May thru September, weed watchers survey a designated section, and report their findings, either calling their area Milfoil Free, or taking samples and reporting to Amy. Amy expressed a willingness to train any volunteers.

### **New Business**

Lake Host Program. Paul Richardson is the present Lake Host Program Leader and has announced his retirement from that position, effective at the end of 2013. Larry Hallin has been very active in the Lake Host Program this season and volunteered to become the new Leader for 2014.

Fall Article for The Baysider. Ted Carl volunteered to write an article for the Newspaper to inform the public of the Milfoil Committee's endeavors. He will incorporate an appeal for Weed Watchers in the article.

### **Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Milfoil Committee will be held Thursday, August 29, 2013 at 4:00 pm at the Alton Town Hall.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Downing, Milfoil Committee Member

DRAFT FILED WITH THE TOWN SECRETARY  
JULY 26, 2013 AT 1:00 PM. - NJD.