

MILFOIL AND INVASIVE AQUATIC WEEDS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

February 17,2010

6:30PM

New Durham Town Hall

Present: Art Hoover, Susan Hoover, Fred Quimby and Aline Goss

Absent: Lee Ann Beals, Tom Goss, Don Holm, and Cindy MacIntyre

Guests: Amy Smagula (NH DES), Ed Neister (Barnstead Milfoil Committee and New Durham resident), and Dave Bickford (Selectman).

1. Call to order: Art Hoover convened the scheduled monthly meeting at 6:35PM at the Town Hall.
2. General:
 - a. Art recapped the last meeting for Ed and Amy by stating that the bids for the treatment of milfoil in the upper Jones Pond area collected from two separate bidders cost more than the Committee expected. Given that funds would not be available from the State this year, the Committee wanted to know how best to proceed in the future. Currently there is \$10,000. in escrow in its own capital reserve account for milfoil treatment in the Merrymeeting River. The Committee's plan was to request that another \$10,000. be placed in this account (this year at Town Meeting). Should this be funded we would still have less than the \$30K+ outlined in the two quotes. The Committee wondered if a less expensive quote to treat the river with the chemical diquart, should be considered?
 - i. Both Amy and Ed suggested that treatment with diquart would not be as effective as two treatments using 2,4D.
 - b. Art had asked for a revised quotation from each company and handed the Committee their responses. Aquatic Control Technology responded that they would prefer treatment with 2,4 D with two treatments, one in June-early July and the other in late July. The area of the second treatment could be modified based on the success of the first treatment and they were willing to work with the Committee on this to achieve the most reasonable price for the job. Lyncott Environmental responded with a proposal to break the treatment area into two separate areas treating one with a double dose (200 lbs/ac) and treating the second area with diquart. The following year they propose reversing the treatment regimens.

- i. Amy and Ed both preferred the treatment schedule outlined by ACT.

- ii. Amy has re-mapped the infested areas on the river north of the Jones Pond Dam and was able to reduce the infested areas which needed to be treated. Rather than the original 36

acres the revised figure was 27 acres (she handed the aerial map of the area and explained why this was sufficient). Next she submitted this map to Marc Bellaud of ACT and came up with a revised quote of \$11,140. for a single treatment. The second treatment would be less than the first, thus we could move ahead this year and conduct two treatments of this area for the amount expected in the CRF after this year's Town Meeting. Amy handed out a quote from Marc based on a slightly larger area. Marc also noted that by treating the Jones Pond area using Town funds only the DES should give the Town extra points and a better chance to receive funds in 2011 for the Downing Pond treatment. Amy agreed.

iii. Amy suggested that if the Committee wanted to pursue this strategy they should ask Marc to put in a permit for two treatments of Jones Pond both to be conducted in 2010. This is necessary because the permits expire on December of each year. Since 90 days are required from the time of application submission before approval to treat in early July, the application to Agriculture must be in by the end of March.

iv. Ed explained why a second treatment after 6 weeks was essential. The second treatment is timed to occur when the plant has only 20% of the root structure recovered from the first treatment. This is why the second treatment is so successful.

v. Amy also reminded the Committee that due to extensive flowering in the Jones Pond area over the last two years we now have an extensive seed bank in the river, this makes treatment more difficult with two treatments necessary and diving to remove recovering plants essential.

- c. Art asked about the successful application to treat the Alton Bay area and Merrymeeting River going into the Bay.
 - i. Amy responded that the State places more points on applications where milfoil has a commercial economic impact. With all the businesses along the Bay, Alton had additional points added to their application.
- d. Art asked about cooperation with F&G concerning the lowering of water in the Jones Pond basin before and after treatments. Apparently, Ed Robinson, was concerned about migrating waterfowl sites along the river in the fall and prevented the Committee from lowering the water to freeze-kill the plant. Lowering the water 6 inches for the treatment will not be a problem. Amy suggested the Committee contact a Commissioner about any future freeze-kill water drop. Fred agreed to look into this. Amy herself will contact the Dam Bureau about the 6 inch drop for the treatments this summer.
- e. Fred reported that Ricky Rines is building a DASH unit which will be available for the ND treatment with divers.
- f. Art will contact Marc about the details for submission of an application for treatment this summer and how to approach the additional households that will be in the new treatment area.
- g. Dave Bickford asked who would speak to the warrant article at Town Meeting, Fred and Ed Neister agreed.

3. The next **Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 23, 2010.**