

**Minutes
Alton Milfoil Committee
May 14, 2013
Alton Town Hall, 4:00pm**

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

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes 11/29/12

J. Downing made a motion to accept the Minutes of November 29, 2012 as presented; motion was seconded by N. Downing and passed.

Old Business

2013 Contracts – The Committee discussed the DASH and 2-4D three year contracts and noted that they were accepted by the Town of Alton and signed by the Selectmen. P. Richardson reported that A. Smagula confirmed the contracts were in place. The 2-4D Application Permit has been submitted by the Contractor and the Town is waiting for approval from DES. The Parker Marine area was also included in the Permit Application treatment plan. It was noted that Parker Marine is down stream from the Town Wells and contains mostly muck. If approved, the Town wells would not pump for two weeks. The Parker Marine area is a big portion of the milfoil area and was treated before with all drinking water test results being clear with no impact. If the Parker Marine area is included in the application permit for 2-4D, the Water Department and Board of Selectmen would need to approve its application.

New Business

DASH Unit Discussion- J. Catudal presented information to the Committee for review in regard to the Town purchasing a DASH unit to help reduce costs with specific thought to the amount of DASH needed in the MMR. The Committee discussed the benefits and challenges of owning a unit verses contracting the service out to a professional DASH contractor. It was noted that actual costs would need to be taken into consideration (staff training; purchase/maintenance/storage/transportation (fuel/trailer); waste removal; DES reporting; proper licensing; organization of process). J. Downing noted that a channel has been made in the River for watercraft and if the boats stay in the marked channel, the milfoil area to remove will be more manageable. J. Downing also stated that if all of the milfoil is removed in the MMR other good vegetation will be removed and that will alter the MMR ecology. B. Mannion stated the Committee should keep the idea of DASH ownership in mind as it may be an option to consider.

Committee Members Oath of Office- Committee Members (T. Carl, B. Mannion and B. Fortier) were officially sworn in as members by Deputy Town Clerk, Marie Price. P. Richardson, J. and N. Downing were sworn in prior to the meeting.

Lake Host Program- The Committee discussed the additional public boat ramp (Fish and Game) in Alton and suggested that an additional Lake Host staff person be supplied to conduct boat inspections at the new Fish and Game Boat Ramp. P. Richardson stated that an additional \$500 may be available to the Town for this purpose through the NH Lakes Association. P. Richardson reported that Alton was awarded a \$1000 grant for 2013 and B. Mannion offered to assist with the Lake Host Program this summer. There is approximately \$130 in the staff payroll account from 2012, which will be carried over to 2013. P. Richardson made a motion to formally request funding for a Lake Host, with the Fish and Game Department's permission and to staff both public boat ramps. The motion was seconded by B. Fortier and passed. K. Troendle reported that she contacted Jeffrey King from the Fish and Game Department in regard to the Lake Host Program and also the Milfoil stencil at the boat ramp and he was in favor of both items. K. Troendle stated she would keep him informed and ask his permission once the Committee has a specific schedule to staff and stencil the ramp.

2013 Budget- The Committee noted that the Town approved the warrant article for milfoil. The Town received the last reimbursement check from DES (State of NH) on April 5, 2013 for \$4,187.50. The approximate 2013 Budget totals are: \$13,244 from DES (State of NH); \$27,500 Town of Alton Warrant Article; \$3000 in balance; for a total of approximately \$43,000 for 2013 treatment.

MMR Signs- The Committee discussed ordering 2x2 signs to post in the MMR warning boaters to stay in the boat channel. K. Troendle will order the signs.

Associations/Weed Watchers- The Committee discussed contacting Associations around the Lake and informing them about the Milfoil Committee and establishing a Weed Watchers Program. K. Troendle will contact NH Lakes for a list of Associations on the waters of Alton. The Weed Watchers group would be on a list serve where updates are sent in regard to information on milfoil.

Milfoil Control Funds- The Committee discussed how fortunate the Town of Alton is to have had private contributions from Marinas and citizens in addition to the funds provided by the State of NH and Town of Alton to support the control of Milfoil in the waters of Alton.

Surveys 2013- The Committee discussed conducting surveys prior to June 13 to identify the milfoil areas for treatment in 2013. A. Smagula would confirm the areas with GPS coordinates for the contractors.

Adjournment

P. Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:28pm; motion was seconded by J. Downing and passed. The next meeting will be held June 13, 2013 at 4:00pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kellie Troendle, Certified Park and Recreation Professional
Parks and Recreation Director*