

**Minutes
Alton Milfoil Committee
June 4, 2009
Alton Town Hall, 4:00pm**

Members Present: Jon and Nancy Downing, Joe Catudal, Peter Bolster, and Fran Bonfanti
Staff Present: Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.

Approval of Minutes

J. Downing made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 28, 2009 as read; motion was seconded by J. Catudal and passed.

New Business

Appointment of Chairman- P. Bolster made a motion to appoint J. Downing as chairman of the Milfoil Committee; motion was seconded by F. Bonfanti and passed.

New Durham Meeting- The Alton Milfoil Committee is invited to attend the June 17 meeting in New Durham; the members that attend will report back relevant information to the Committee at the next meeting.

Members- Paul Richardson was not able to attend the meeting today but will be back in town for the next meeting.

Goals:

Milfoil Identification Process- The Committee discussed identifying milfoil sites in Alton in the lakes, ponds and waterways and plotting the milfoil sites with a dot on the Alton map, that way the Committee can zero in on the areas of concern and see the big picture. The milfoil can be plotted on the map and identified and logged with the site data (date, location, dimensions, etc.). The Committee discussed contacting DES to see if they have existing data for Alton and noted that the milfoil data should be current because it changes on a yearly basis and the amount/locations may look different then past years. The Committee discussed using volunteers in canoes or kayaks to investigate small ponds/lakes/marshes for identifying/evaluating milfoil and plotting those sites on the Alton map.

News Release- The Committee discussed issuing a press release in regard to the establishment of the Committee and the Committee's effort to gather information to identify the milfoil sites in Alton. The news release should advise that people reporting the milfoil locations should provide a map and lot number or GPS coordinates to help pin the areas down on the map. The Committee would be able to identify milfoil if people are not sure if they have it, by appointment. The Committee discussed the different types of milfoil and noted the negative effects of the exotic/variable milfoil on

recreational opportunities including: fishing, boating, swimming and entanglement at swim areas/beaches.

Town Associations- The Committee discussed the various Associations and contacting them to discuss the issue of milfoil and water quality. The milfoil subject could be brought up at the annual meetings in the hope of informing the residents about milfoil and the various challenges milfoil poses.

Education- The Committee noted the different types of milfoil and the importance of properly identifying the exotic milfoil also called variable milfoil. The Committee advised that residents should be informed with photos and information on the negative effects milfoil creates for a water body.

Reporting back to Selectmen- The Committee discussed their upcoming plans and said they will plan to identify the areas of milfoil by plotting the milfoil sites on a map; the Committee will determine the severity of the milfoil problem; the Committee will recommend treatment options and provide costs for the Board of Selectmen to review.

Surrounding Towns- The Committee discussed contacting Ed Neister, chairman of the Barnstead Milfoil Committee, in regard to providing education to the group on milfoil and ways Barnstead and Alton can work together to address the mutual concerns. The Committee suggested inviting Ed Neister to the next meeting on June 18.

Funding Sources- P. Bolster explained the resources that are available for funding for milfoil treatment. There is prevention money which is the Lake Host Program and monitoring of the milfoil areas and there is DES Grant Money which is a 50/50 matching grant for treatment of milfoil.

Meeting Date- The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 18, 2009 at 4:00pm at the Alton Town Hall. The Committee will plan to speak with Ed Neister in regard to milfoil issues.

Adjournment

F. Bonfanti made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:25pm; motion was seconded by J. Catudal and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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