

**Minutes
Alton Milfoil Committee
August 11, 2011
Alton Town Hall, 4:00pm**

Members Present: Jonathan and Nancy Downing, Paul Richardson, Ted Carl, Bill Mannion, Nancy Merrill, Brad Smith and Joe Catudal.

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

Public: Brian Fortier and Chris Murphy

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by P. Richardson. J. and N. Downing will be arriving later in the meeting.

NOTES: The Board of Selectmen approved the appointments of: Joe Catudal, Bill Mannion and Ted Carl and members have been sworn in.

Approval of Minutes 6/30/11

T. Carl made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 30, 2011 as written; motion was seconded by N. Merrill and passed.

New Business

- A. Lake Host Program-** P. Richardson said the program is going well with staff working on Saturdays and Sundays for four hours each day. The staff's primary purpose is to provide information and teach people about milfoil and for them to inspect their own boats. The Town was awarded \$750.00 in matching grant money. 145 boats have been inspected and one had milfoil, the boat was down the river. The public is learning about milfoil too and becoming aware of its impact on the lakes.
- B. Lycott Update-** K. Troendle reported that the Special Permit Application prepared by Lycott was not accepted by the State because it was filed late. The Town will not be able to chemically treat as scheduled/planned and recommended by DES (chemically treat for two years then hand pull and repeat). The abutters were notified and the Town was not charged by Lycott for the work that was completed on the permit application. B. Fortier reported that West Alton Marina was not listed on the harvesting maps used for the DASH bid. Mr. Fortier said they were planning to do the second treatment as a preventative measure and found that the milfoil comes back in three years. J. Catudal asked why the Town seems to be missing the opportunities to get their projects completed. It was stated that the contractor is responsible for submitting the required paperwork to process the application for chemical treatment. The contractor did not apply in time, which is their professional job to do so because they know the time line and had a contract with the Town to perform the work involved. The Town did prompt the contractor and contacted them to make sure they were progressing with the permit application. It was noted that the Committee met with the contractor last year about their work quality and the Committee's concerns with work performance and that the Committee was not satisfied with the contractor's overall work. The Committee noted the contractor was the low bidder and that the State reiterated the

Committee's concerns and observations. Lycott said they would keep the same contract price for 2012. N. Downing requested that DES provide an updated 5 year plan based on the Town missing the second treatment cycle for 2011. The Committee noted the estimated cost to treat milfoil chemically is \$1,000.00 per acre. J. Downing reported that Amy from DES stated the Town should do the more reasonable areas for harvesting and make suggestions and get her recommendations. The Town has approximately \$18,000-\$20,000 for milfoil treatment. The Committee discussed areas that could be harvested versus chemical treatment and noted the river can not be treated with chemicals due to the Town wells.

C. Committee's Recommendation- P. Richardson suggested that the Committee identify selected areas for harvesting in the fall of 2011. Suggestions included: Woodman's Cove, Town Beach, and Back Bay. The Committee said the State would need to be notified of the day the area would be harvested and pictures could be taken to record the amount harvested. The Committee was told that the grant money could be used for the harvesting project. The Committee recommended forming a sub-committee: J. Downing, T. Carl and C. Murphy to evaluate the DASH bids received for the harvesting project. P. Richardson made a motion that the Milfoil Committee select and recommend a contractor and instruct the contractor of the areas the Town wants harvested, within the parameters of the budget, and then bring the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen and DES for approval; motion was seconded by J. Downing and passed. The Committee discussed the importance of keeping the momentum going and that harvesting is the preferred method because it gets the roots. The Committee stated that since the area is not eligible to be chemically treated in 2011 the Town should do an alternative, effective form of treatment. The Committee noted that Alton Bay was cleaned up visually by the 2010 chemical treatment and the citizens should be happy with the results. It was stated that by August 25 the sub-committee will have a recommendation for a contractor for the harvesting project.

D. DASH Bids Opened- D. Hussey, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, opened the bids for the suction harvesting project. Four bids were received.

1. Cliff Cabral- New England Milfoil- \$1,200.00/day;
2. Aqualogic- \$1,050.00/day. Total project cost- \$94,500.00;
3. AE Commercial Diving Services- \$1,235.00/day. Total project cost- \$24,700.00;
4. Professional Diver Services- \$650.00/day. Total project cost- \$13,000.00

E. Chairman- A new chairman will be needed for the Committee and members were asked to please consider the position. A new chairman will be selected at the next meeting.

Adjournment

P. Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:15pm; motion was seconded by B. Smith and passed. The next meeting will be August 25, 2011 at 4:00pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

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