

**Minutes
Alton Milfoil Committee
September 24, 2009
Alton Town Hall, 4:00pm**

Members Present: Jon and Nancy Downing, Joe Catudal, and Paul Richardson

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by Chairman, J. Downing.

Approval of Minutes 9/10/09

N. Downing made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 10, 2009 as written, motion was seconded by P. Richardson and passed.

New Business

Milfoil Locations/Map- J. Downing handed out a report and map that was prepared by Amy Smagula, DES, with the Milfoil Locations in Alton Bay and other areas in Town. The Committee reviewed the information including a letter from Mrs. Smagula in regard to Variable Milfoil Growth in Alton Bay and the Lower End of the Merrymeeting River in Alton, NH and also included two maps showing the milfoil areas in Alton. J. Downing said the second map will need to be updated, the second sheet showed that Minge Cove and Glidden Cove have milfoil and the Committee confirmed that milfoil was not found at those two locations. The Committee discussed the grant application and bid process and asked K. Troendle to contact Mrs. Smagula to confirm the next step for the Committee. The Committee discussed options to present the funding request to the Town and noted that it would be best to include the entire project/treatment in the request for funding. The Committee said they are hopeful to receive support for the project from the Board of Selectmen and Town. The Committee discussed alternatives if the complete project did not receive funding. P. Richardson described the milfoil into zones: (1) Water Bandstand to the Bridge; (2) Merrymeeting River; (3) Back Bay; (4) Small's Cove.

Report to the Selectmen- J. Downing presented a written final report from the Milfoil Committee to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee reviewed the written report and the members signed the report. K. Troendle will get F. Bonfanti's signature on Monday and deliver the report to the Town Administrator for the Board of Selectmen's review. The Committee discussed the negative effects of milfoil on waterfront property owners and said that the Town assessments have decreased on lake front property because of the milfoil; the Committee noted that residents should be aware that there is a possibility of taxes increasing for the inland property owners as a result of this trend. The Committee asked K. Troendle to confirm that the Committee will be able to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the Milfoil Committee's Report. The Committee was looking at the October 5, 2009 meeting if possible and if not then the following meeting. K. Troendle will confirm the meeting date with the Town Administrator. The Committee said they will need a screen for their presentation.

P. Richardson offered to draft a briefing to the Board of Selectmen on paper by October 1. The Committee said they would like to get the briefing to the Board of Selectmen before their meeting to discuss the milfoil report. The Committee discussed writing a press release and including a map with the milfoil locations and the seriousness of the problem.

Old Business

Follow up/Response Letters- K. Troendle reported that she emailed or called the residents that contacted the Committee in regard to milfoil sightings and this task was completed.

Exotic Aquatic Weeds & Species Committee- J. Downing reported that he was invited to attend the Milfoil Summit meeting on October 8, 2009 in Concord to discuss the issues surrounding milfoil. Mr. Downing will be attending the meeting, as Committee chairman and will report back to the Committee. J. Catudal noted that the State of Maine has signs posted as you enter the state in regard to Aquatic Weeds and mentioned it may be something that would benefit New Hampshire.

Meeting Date- The next Committee meeting will be on Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 4:00pm at the Alton Town Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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