

DRAFT MINUTES

Milfoil and Invasive Aquatic Weeds Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

August 24, 2016, 2016 6:34 PM

New Durham Town Hall

Present: Art Hoover, Sue Hoover, Aline Goss, Cynthia and Fred Quimby, Bill Meyer, Tom Rogenski

Guest: Mike Gelinas

1. Call to order: Fred Quimby convened the scheduled meeting at 6:34PM at the Town Hall. The minutes of the July 20, 2016 meeting were read and discussed. Aline moved and Sue seconded a motion to accept the minutes. The vote for approval was unanimous.
2. Fred reported Amy Smagula (NHDES) completed a resurvey of both Jones and Downing ponds. She issued a very favorable report, including a map with gps coordinates of the areas containing variable milfoil. There are only 8 small spots of variable milfoil in Jones Pond and four area in Downing Pond. The best method for removing these plants is by diver hand pulling, rather than chemical treatment.
3. Fred will contact Aqua Logic for a quote (4 days maximum) for divers to remove the variable milfoil in the areas Amy has identified.
4. Samples from Downing Pond taken on July 28 show that the cyanobacteria levels are below the danger threshold and the swimming ban signs were removed.
5. Jones Pond has several areas with floating gelatinous green blobs spread across the surface. Sue reports that she broke out in a rash soon after picking up one of these blobs. Amy has sent samples to the lab for analysis.
6. The Merrymeeting Lake hosts have not found any variable milfoil on boats or trailers preparing to launch at the public launch.
7. Mike presented a comprehensive study documenting specific conductivity values from just below the fish hatchery to Downing Pond. The sample from the river just below the hatchery was 69 uS/cm a 50% increase compared to 46 uS/cm at Merrymeeting Lake. Phosphorus levels increased from less than 8 ppb in MML to over 60ppb downstream from the hatchery. Phosphorus levels were higher the deeper the samples were taken suggesting the phosphorus is settling in the sediment.
8. Mike sent 9 samples, taken from just below the hatchery to Downing Pond, for the lab to analyze the total phosphorous content in these samples.
9. Fred moved and Bill seconded the following motion: The NDMAWC make available up to \$1000 from the Milfoil CRF to the BOS. That the BOS expend this allocation on materials and services designed to elucidate the causes for cyanobacteria blooms in the Merrymeeting River. Invoices for these materials and services should not be submitted to the NH-DES for compensation from the State Milfoil Treatment Grant. The vote was unanimous.

10. Tom moved and Sue seconded a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43PM by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Rogenski, Secretary