

Milfoil and Invasive Aquatic Weeds Committee

Draft Minutes

September 6, 2017

New Durham Town Hall

Present: Fred Quimby, Tom Rogenski, Bill Meyer, Art Hoover, Susan Hoover, Cynthia Quimby

Absent: Aline Goss

Guests: John Judd, President of Aqualogics Inc.; David "Swens" Swenson, BOS

1. Fred opened the meeting at 6:30PM and asked for any additions or omissions in the Minutes of the June 21, 2017 meeting. Hearing none, Fred asks for a motion. Tom made a motion that the minutes of June 21, 2017 be accepted as written. Bill seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion unanimously.
2. Fred went on to explain that Amy sent out the applications for State matching funds for the removal of milfoil in 2018. Fred filled them out similar to last year with the Town committed to match with up to \$12,000. Fred indicated that DASH operations would definitely be requested and, based on Amy's analysis; chemical treatment of Jones Pond was also an option.
3. John Judd was introduced by Fred who began by stating that Aqualogics removed 190 gal from Jones Pond and 30 gal from Downing Ponds. John added that the algae in Jones Pond were now making DASH operations difficult and we should entertain treating this. John listed several methods of treatment including: aeration, adding a blue or black dye, and applying benthic mats. He discussed the pros and cons of each. His firm has treated Wachusetts Reservoir in MA for milfoil and it was 36 acres, the largest waterbody he has treated. Art asked whether or not we should try to pull milfoil from Jones Pond after the State draws down the pond this fall. John said yes, but be careful not to leave roots of the plants or they will grow right back. John thought the two ponds could be treated for Milfoil with DASH only next year.
4. Fred explained how David Swenson talked to Fred and Tom about changing the name and mission of the Milfoil Committee. Representing the BOS, Swens thought a single committee with at least two divisions, one for milfoil and another for cyanobacteria, each with separate membership and separate accounts would allow the BOS to deposit funds for each activity into separate accounts overseen by personnel already working in these areas. Fred explained that the mission of the combined committee would be: To maintain a high water quality standard for the Town's waterbodies consistent with the standards for the classes and use of each waterbody (New Durham has both class A and class B waterbodies). Fred asked for a motion and Bill moved that The Milfoil and Invasive Aquatic Plants Committee change its name to the New Durham Water Quality Committee with two divisions, cyanobacteria and milfoil, each with separate membership and separate accounts and budgets. There was a brief discussion during which Swens recommended that we not limit the committee to two divisions but state: "and other divisions as needed".

Bill amended the motion by adding “and other divisions as needed” seconded by Art. After a brief discussion, the committee voted unanimously for the amendment.

Bill then restated the original motion to read: “The Milfoil and Invasive Aquatic Weeds Committee shall change its name to the New Durham Water Quality Committee initially composed of a cyanobacteria division and a milfoil division with other divisions to be added as needed in the future, each with it’s own membership, accounts and budgets”. This was voted approved unanimously by the committee.

5. Fred explained that this year the Milfoil Committee was asked to also present it’s budget to the CIPC for review and questions. Fred also represented the cyanobacteria mitigation steering Committee at these meetings. Fred did not request any funds for milfoil treatment this year based on the accumulation of \$26,000 in the CRF, enough to cover any contingencies in 2018.

Fred also asked the CIPC for \$24,500 for the work of the CMSC in 2018. This includes a one-time request of \$20,000 for the watershed management plan (WMP), \$4000 for water quality testing in New Durham’s waterbodies, and \$500 for public relations associated with the WMP. The \$4500 request would be recurring.

Fred asked committee members if they wanted to alter this budget request in any way and no one did. The vote to accept these budgets was unanimous.

6. Finally Fred explained to the committee that they had previously approved \$1000 extra should the costs for treating Milfoil exceed the amount requested and approved in 2017. These funds were sufficient. However, the funds requested for water quality testing were not sufficient and most of these funds have been spent and more testing must be done. Bob Craycraft estimated the remaining costs for water testing to be \$990. Bill moved and Cynthia seconded a motion to approve the transfer of \$1000 from the Milfoil account to the appropriate account handling water quality testing (which was set up by Scott Kinmond). The vote was unanimous for approval. Fred will ask Scott how to direct these funds.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Rogenski