

Freedom Aquatic Invasive Species Committee
June 9, 2016

Members Present: Bill Elliott, Ned Kucera, Gerard Costantino, Jim McElroy

Members Absent: Bruce Howlett

Quorum: A quorum was met with 4 members present

Minutes recorded by Jim McElroy

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes

A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Gerard, to approve the minutes from May 12, 2016 as written. All present were in favor.

Milfoil Control Update

Jim Reported that latest milfoil survey on the Danforths shows less growth than expected, given the early ice-out this year. While the map shows a large number of points, the individual patches were quite small. NHDES reports a similar phenomenon in other parts of the state. We are puzzled (but grateful) for this situation. In any case, vigilance is needed as the growing season is in the early days. NHDES is now recommending that everything can be handled with divers and that we may not have to do a herbicide treatment this year. Ned was asking if this was the most cost effective solution. Jim made two points: 1. diving is the preferred approach from the environmental point of view, and 2. Herbicide is most cost effective when treating large areas.

Lake Host Program

Lake Host Program will commence on June 11th with same schedule as last year (Friday ó Monday). Nancy Johnson is returning as our paid Lake Host.

Jim made a plea for more hours by volunteers. Typically, the volunteers work from 9:00 am to noon. Total shift is 9:00 am ó 3:00 pm. Jim will put together a schedule template for people to sign up.

As part of this discussion, Gerard went over some of the fishing derby dates at OLM. Note that this list is still subject to change. Dates at OLM include: 6/25, 7/31, 8/13, 8/17, and 8/28. On those dates we will shift the Lake Host coverage to start at 6:00 am as the derbies like to get an early start.

We also discussed the plea for Lake Host volunteers. Ned had submitted an excellent article which got paired down quite a bit in the Freedom Town column. Ned suggested that we could resubmit as a letter to the editor to the Carroll County Independent. The letter would be sent by the FAISC committee. All agreed that this should be done.

Check future meeting minutes for any amendments or changes to these minutes.

Financial Update

There were no financial reports this month as the spend activity has been minimal. We did get an update on the gift account balance: total funds in this account now sit at \$8,819.63 with latest gift coming from Berry Bay Association (\$200.). A thankyou letter will be sent.

Other Business

Discussed situation wrt expansion of Westward Shores and the potential negative impact on water quality/invasive species of the Ossipee Lake system. It was noted that a letter has been sent by the Freedom Conservation Commission to the Town of Ossipee outlining their concerns. We discussed the idea of our group also writing a letter (with Selectmen concurrence). All present thought that this was a good idea. Jim will draft a letter and send it around for comment.

A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Gerard, to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.