

Minutes of Aquatic Invasive Species Committee Meeting

Monday, May 3, 2021

The meeting was started by Chris Webb at 8:30 am.

1. Members Present: Sally Pease, Ingemar Ekstrom, Marcia Wellnitz, Diane Menard, Chris Webb, and Gerald Gustafson at the Town Hall and on Zoom.

Other Attendees: Cris Neff, Eric Neff (Town Board Liaison), Fred Kawell (Conservation Club), and Tom Renz (Town Chairperson).

Members Absent: Andy Teal (Bayfield County AIS Coordinator).

Verification of Public Notice: Public notice of meeting was posted on April 30, 2021 at 9:39 am by Judy Bourassa, Clerk/Treasurer.

2. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

3. Presentation by Chuck Druckrey – Building an Affordable Herbicide Enclosure

Chuck Druckrey recommended that we all watch his YouTube video about chemical treatment of lakes and the building and installing of the barrier to improve treatment success to around 90%. Chuck will send a list of materials and links to websites for ordering materials and getting instructions.

The bulk of the presentation was a question and answer format. The following are notes about different subjects discussed:

* Sheeting: woven or non-woven material—woven is better, lighter weight, and opaque, less expensive.

* Building: first build the structure needed to create the barrier (like a table).

45 minutes per 100' of sheeting (approximately) to actually prepare the edges.

Height needs to be from the lake bottom to the surface. It must seal tight to the lake bottom.

Leave barrier in for 48 hours (best). At 72 hours, algae starts to grow.

Water temperature should be 60°.

Can do multiple treatments with the same barrier. Can move the barrier to a different section of lake too.

3/8" slot on the PVC pipe, use a band saw, and sandpaper to sand rough edges. 1" PVC pipe.

Foam core 1¼".

* Anchors: Use 2 gallon buckets with concrete. One anchor every 200/300'. Lowered with a rope line.

* Buoys: Used to attach warning signs every 200' where the anchors are attached, not at each 100' joint.

* Spools: 100' per spool. Need hardware on the pontoon to attach spools for winding in and out.

Need 3 people on the pontoon: 2 people lifting the edges of the plastic sheeting, 1 person for working the winding device. Simply use duct tape to attach plastic sheet to the spool. After the project, sheeting needs to dry: spread it out on a blacktop surface, dry one side, flip over, and dry the other side, rewind and store. Choose a calm and sunny day!

* Floatline: 1¼" backer line used for concrete, comes on a spool.

* Chemical vs Mechanical (BAISS): Do chemical first for dense weed growth, then finish later (3 to 4 weeks or in August) for "clean-up" and new infestations as the divers monitor the weed patch.

- * Use of barrier to control Curly-leaf Pondweed: Not likely to be effective because the turions lay dormant on the lake bottom for more than a year. They reproduce new plants.
- * The plan: Plan this year, prepare and collect materials, do the chemical treatment in 2022. Money in the Town Budget (\$13,000) would not be enough, it is earmarked for the chemical treatment. We will probably have to write a separate grant for the materials and construction costs of this project. Some labor help may be provided by the members of the Conservation Club.

4. Next meeting Date for Town of Barnes AIS Committee is Monday, May 10, 2021 at 9:00 am. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Menard
715-795-3464, menard5@msn.com