

July 9, 2018

TO: Town Board Members, Town of Fort Ann, New York

FM Joseph F. Loszynski, Park Manager, Lake Hadlock Park District

Subject: Monthly Progress Report

MATTERS PENDING FROM PREVIOUS PROGRESS REPORT:

1. The meeting referenced in the previous progress report with an outside contractor to potentially conduct hand harvesting on Lake Hadlock next year has not taken place due to his unavailability. I am hopeful that this can be arranged by the end of the month or no later than the 1st week of August. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.
2. The lake owner's manual discussed previously is currently being printed for distribution. When it is completed, a copy will be secured and provided to the town board for their perusal. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.
3. The backup operator for the mechanical harvester has completed approximately 8 days of training and is progressing very well. He has operated the harvester several days using the GPS and Mr. Hillebrandt advises that he is progressing satisfactorily with not only the physical operation of the machine but the technical aspect as well. His training will continue throughout this week. MATTER IS PENDING.
4. The collection detail still operates without a full compliment of personnel to work the front of the pontoon boats. Interviews will continue with potential candidates until the detail is at full strength. An interview was conducted last Friday and it is hopeful that this high school student will pass the background and be available to work. If so, this leaves only one position vacant to fill hopefully in the near future. MATTER IS PENDING.
5. The Harmful Algae Bloom official response protocol for the lake has not been totally finalized due to the lake of input from the state on this subject matter. I have arranged an informal response protocol with the person that is in charge of the CSLAP program for the lake, which will definitely meet our needs until something more definitive can be put in place regarding this matter. I have no concern whatsoever if a suspicious bloom is identified as to the manner in which it will be handled and subsequent testing performed. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.
6. Regarding the mention in the previous progress report about a visit by the APA to the lake, the date of July 26th has been confirmed as to day that this will take place. The focus of the visit will be primarily on observing the operation of the mechanical harvester and collection boats in order to enable them to photograph different phases of the operation for use by the APA in creating a model for other lakes to emulate. They will very likely want to observe the unloading process, as well as glean information on other operational aspects of the program, which should provide them a very good picture as to the overall mechanical harvester program. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.

NEW BUSINESS SINCE THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD:

1. On June 19, 2018, two employees from the collection detail attended the plant identification school held by the Darrin Freshwater Institute and APIPP. The continued education of the work detail in identifying native and invasive plant's, greatly increases our capability of identifying the introduction of a new invasive plant if that was to occur. This education better positions the town to meet all the conditions and requirements that are contained in the APA permit to operate the mechanical harvester. MATTER IS CLOSED.
2. During this reporting period, several interviews were conducted for the vacant positions on the collection detail. In fact, one person reported for work for two days and then decided not to continue because the work was too laborious. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to maintain a work force with some degree of continuity from season to season due to the fact that this is summer work and part-time employment. The search will continue for the last vacant position on the detail. MATTER IS PENDING.
3. To date, approximately 16,000 lbs of milfoil has been harvested and collected. This is an insignificant amount considering the volume of milfoil that still remains to be cut in order to minimize "boat chop", which was a significant problem over the July 4th holiday. This appears to be a very different year as to the density of milfoil as compared to last year. Presumably by the end of the summer season we can possibly draw some conclusions as to "why", but at this point it is extremely early to do any speculation as to the dramatic increase in the volume of milfoil. MATTER REMAINS PENDING.
4. On July 7, 2018, attended and made a presentation at the lake associations 2018 Membership Meeting. The audience appeared satisfied with the management of the lake and the performance by the work detail. I personally fielded numerous questions after the meeting as to vegetative fragmentation, shoreline management and some regarding potential chemical treatment of the lake in the future. Overall, I thought the meeting went well and I base this opinion on the fact that there were only a few negative comments about the condition of the lake but many thanks for the work conducted over the last couple of years. MATTER IS CLOSED.

END OF REPORT.