

September 7, 2018

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

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

SUBJ: Monthly Progress Report

MATTERS PENDING FROM PREVIOUS PROGRESS REPORT:

1. Within the last two weeks I have had extensive conversation with the owner of Aqualogic, who's groups specializes in suction harvesting for a number of clients in the Adirondack Park. We discussed the needs of Lake Hadlock, covered the model he is using with Lake Minerva and the 10 year contract they just signed for over \$200,000.00. He offers two different scenarios to lakes for his services. First option is he builds the barge platform with all the appropriate equipment, engines, etc for approximately \$44,000.00 and then contracts with the client for use of his divers and tenders at a reduced charge of \$750.00 per day. The second option is the client provides their own barge platform that conforms to industry standards and Aqualogic provides the same personnel as option one but at an increased price of \$1,000.00 per day. The cost per day for either option is substantially cheaper than the expense we paid to AIM which totaled approximately \$1750.00 daily. With AIM they provided two divers in the water instead of one diver that is used by Aqualogic. It has been shown that suction harvesting is much faster and more productive in reducing high density milfoil beds than the conventional hand harvesting technique. The model that Dominic Jude feels would work for Hadlock is too costly in my opinion only because of the number of diving days he has incorporated into a proposed yearly schedule. I do believe that it could be tailored to meets our needs by scaling back the number of days which in my opinion would still have a major impact on reducing the volume of invasives and at the same time get the lake management program returned to a integrated model and footprint instead of "just mowing the lawn". More details will be provided during the workshop session on September 13th. MATTER IS PENDING.
2. The Harmful Algae Bloom protocol remains PENDING.
3. The APA did not visit Lake Hadlock during the month of August. It is unknown at this point if this visit will occur during the vegetative growing season. PENDING.
4. The status of the Mechanical Harvester has been reported on a continual basis to the town supervisor and the town board. The machine has returned to operations but it is far from operating effectively and efficiently due to difficulty regulating different pressure settings to different parts of the boat. As reported earlier, new spools for the valve panel have arrived and will be installed Monday morning. It is reported by the head engineer that designed the panel and the lead mechanic at Northern Trucking that this will resolve the issues and the machine should be back to normal by midday on Monday if the repairs are performed. If the operability of the machine is corrected, operations will continue through the end of next

week to cut areas that are literally topped out and canopying on the lakes surface. This is an undesirable situation for a multitude of reasons but primary the concern of excessive decomposition at the end of the year, restricted sunlight to native plants, reduced food availability for fish life and so on. MATTER IS PENDING.

5. The matter concerning what path and proactive strategy should be developed for next year will be covered extensively during my presentation on September 13th. The town board will be provided extensive facts on the recommended strategy and what model is preferred moving forward to address not only controlling invasive plants but conducting operations in a manner that one discipline doesn't counteract the good outcomes of another. MATTER IS PENDING.

NEW BUSINESS SINCE LAST REPORTING PERIOD:

1. As reported in a previous email to the town supervisor, Lake Hadlock was one of two lakes chosen to participate in a collaborative effort between APIPP and the APA in documenting all vegetative life in the lake. APIPP has completed phase one and the initiative will continue into the later part of September and the first part of October, establishing way finder points for the entire lake and transferring that data into android compatible software that can be retrieved from a mobile instrument documenting precisely the location of all beds of invasives, as well as native plants. The town board will be kept apprised of any developments as the program moves forward. All stakeholders with the Lake Hadlock management group should be commended and proud of this selection because there was dozens of other lakes in contention for this project but Lake Hadlock and Loon Lake were chosen because of good management, transparency of their respective programs, strict compliance with oversight rules and permits and so on. MATTER IS PENDING.
2. During this reporting period, I travelled to Caroga Lake to witness their suction harvesting program which is entirely run by the town. I spent a good amount of time on the barge platform witnessing first hand diver and tender activities and the process used to gather the invasive plants once they reach the platform of the boat. The operation appeared to be very controlled and with minimal fragmentation. The turbidity was substantially less than what is experienced with the use of the mechanical harvester and it was clear that this discipline is by far the most cost effective approach with controlling and eradicating eurasian milfoil plants and other invasive species. Mr. Gene Centri, lake manager for West Caroga and Caroga Lake, has partnered with a number of other jurisdictions assisting them with developing specifications for a barge platform and the credentials needed for divers to have an effective program. He has agreed to give a presentation to the town board if the members feel it would be helpful to hear from him regarding his experiences with this particular discipline. MATTER IS CLOSED.
3. During the first week of August the collection detail hand harvested the known beds of the invasive species called "Water chestnuts". The area of collection was behind the islands and restricted to the shoreline in front of John Calagero's residence. I am pleased to report that the hand harvesting of these plants for several years has resulted in a reduction of the

number of plants and it is hoped in the next few years that we can make a claim that they have been eradicated from the lake. MATTER IS CLOSED.

4. A report of a fuel spill was made during the 3rd week of August which necessitated a personal response by me to the area in question. I interviewed the two persons who made the report and then examined the suspicious area that they felt was derived from fuel. The area was photographed, a sample of the substance was secured and my preliminary assessment of the substance determined it was not petroleum but rather a condition known as "lake foam" which is not uncommon on Hadlock during very hot and windy days. The sample was then further examined by Salvatore Riccardone, who heads up the water quality program for the lake and CSLAP. He concurred with my findings and agreed that there was no justification to submit the sample for further analysis by DEC's laboratory in Syracuse. To be safe, the photograph's was transmitted to Larry Eichler at the RPI Darrin Freshwater Institute and he too agreed that the substance appeared to be "lake foam" and consistent with conditions he examined at the north end of the lake last year. This inquiry was CLOSED UNFOUNDED.
5. The annual picnic for the work detail was again held this year at my lake front. The cost of the picnic was paid for by the Lake Hadlock Association, with some of their board of directors in attendance. It was a good way to end the season for workers who had to leave for college. MATTER IS CLOSED.

END OF REPORT.