

Invasive Plants Council
Tuesday, December 08, 2009
2 pm, Valley Laboratory
Windsor, CT

Council members present: Mary Musgrave, Lou Magnarelli, Philip Prelli, Dave Goodwin, Paul Larson, Tom McGowan, David Sutherland

Others present: Donna Ellis, Nancy Murray, Logan Senack

1. Musgrave called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

2. The minutes from the 11/12/09 meeting were reviewed. Prelli moved (second: Goodwin) to approve the minutes. **The Council decided to approve the minutes as submitted.**

3. Annual report draft review and approval

David Sutherland arrived at 2:18 pm.

The group reviewed the most current draft of the annual report. Prelli moved (second: McGowan) to approve the report as submitted. The Council thanked Musgrave for all her hard work in preparing the report, and thanked Senack for continuing to take minutes at the meetings.

4. Invasive plant boat inspection enforcement

McGowan provided the group with suggested language for a proposed change to CGS Sec. 7-151 that would allow Lake Authority personnel to conduct invasive plant inspections for boats and boat trailers at public boat launches.

Murray noted that it will be extremely important to make sure the new proposed language does not conflict with CGS Sec. 7-151a(d): "A lake authority shall have no jurisdiction in any matters subject to regulation by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection". The new statutes would need to reference Sec. 15-180 of the General Statutes and may need to define what types of boat launches (public/private) would be governed by the law.

The group discussed whether or not traffic control activities (by police or other law enforcement) would be needed if motor vehicles are involved in enforcement actions. The group also discussed the need to make sure that the law will not be used to unreasonably restrict access to lakes accessible by the public.

McGowan moved (second: Prelli) to refer this matter to DEP and asked for an update at the next meeting. **The Council decided to refer the matter to DEP.**

5. Frequency, topics, and schedule of meetings for 2010

The group discussed the meeting schedule for 2010. Musgrave reminded the group that spring and summer are the busy seasons for the nursery industry and would

like to see the April meeting dropped. Sutherland suggested a June meeting to cover the summer gap. **The Council decided to plan 7 meetings for 2010:**

Jan. 12*

Feb. 9

Mar. 9

June 8

Sept. 14

Nov. 9

Dec. 14

Musgrave proposed discussing the boating legislation issue in January and the *Myriophyllum propium* issue and nomenclatural standards in February.

The group discussed inviting Mark Brand (UConn) to present the progress of his work on cultivars. Since he has already presented a number of times, Musgrave suggested that everyone review the minutes containing his previous presentations before asking him to present again.

The group discussed the status of the Invasive Plant Coordinator position after June 2010. No solution to retaining the position has been found to date.

6. Legislative strategy for 2010

The text for the change in the boating legislation proposal would need to be finalized by the beginning of February to make it into this legislative session.

The group discussed requesting limited funds from the Legislature to fund the Invasive Plant Coordinator position and will revisit the bare-bones budget concept at the next meeting. Murray was asked to provide a cost estimate to maintain the position.

Paul Larson left the meeting at 3:39.

7. Other old or new business

The Council did not discuss any other old or new business.

8. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 12, 2010 at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor. Musgrave will confirm that the lab is available on that date.*

9. McGowan moved (second: Goodwin) to adjourn the meeting. The Council decided to adjourn at 3:50 pm.

***Follow-up note (added 12/14/09):** The Valley Lab is not available on Jan. 12, 2010. The next meeting will take place instead in room G8A of the Department of Agriculture Building in Hartford (165 Capitol Ave), from 2-4 pm on Jan. 12, 2010. -LS