

Millbrook HOA Board Meeting Minutes

Special Meeting of Board to deal with Duckweed Outbreak – meeting held on Zoom

June 3, 2024 7:00 PM

Board Members in Attendance

- Duane Johnston, President
 - Jon Buck, Vice-president and Area 5 Representative
 - Matt Haider Area 2, Representative
 - Richard Bohannon, Area 1 Representative
 - Danny Barton, Area 3 Representative
 - Beth Henkel, Secretary
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- Board President Duane Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm
 - He reviewed the details of the Duckweed outbreak on the east side of the canal.
 - He explained that volunteers had sprayer earlier in the year, but this was a pretty big outbreak (5 houses on one side, 3 on the other) that might need treatment from Magnolia Fisheries.
 - Jon Buck estimated it would take 3-4 bottles of chemicals (approx. cost, \$500) and 4-5 hours of volunteer time to spray. He also said he had sprayed 1.25 bottles earlier in May.
 - Danny Barton reported that Don Gwynne had sprayed the corner where the Duckweed was spreading Memorial day weekend.
 - Responding to a question from Matt Haider, Duane explained the chemicals (Diquat & Tsunami) are an aquatic herbicide, that when used correctly, won't harm fish.
 - Jon Buck said if we only knock out half, it will come back, and wasn't sure we had enough chemicals on hand.
 - Matt asked about using fish to control
 - Magnolia Fisheries estimated \$1500 for treatment, but couldn't get to it until June 11.
 - Richard raised concern that we would be in the same boat if we used the chemicals and did not use the Sonar treatment (also from Magnolia), which is a lot longer asking
 - Jon explained the Duckweed flourishes when it is very sunny and there is a lot of nitrogen, which comes from organic matter and from fertilizers used on our lawns.
 - Duane reminded everyone that our ultimate goal is to not need to spray for Duckweed, which is why we are moving toward a more holistic path to break down organic material in the water. But the need now is to take care of the Duckweed.
 - The question is if we spray with volunteers, or Magnolia, or use the Sonar treatment.
 - Sonar can't be applied if it is supposed to rain immediately after treatment.
 - Neither of these treatments will take care of watermeal, another aquatic nuisance.

- Sonar will kill what the Duckweed, but will take longer. It is also more preventive and should last the rest of the summer.
- Matt said he thought we should pursue using Magnolia to do the spraying
- There was some discussion about the risks of having volunteers do the spraying.
- Danny volunteered to do some of the spraying
- Lake maintenance account has \$11,925 balance
- Richard moved purchase Sonar Treatment, costing approximately \$1,500 seconded by Danny.
- All members voted yes and the motion passed.