

From: Chris & Lew [bailey3@twcny.rr.com]

Sent: Sunday, May 21, 2006 9:49 AM

To: Hoffman, Joy

Cc: Brooks, Bill & Jane; Janet D. King; Seem, Thomas; Seem, Tom & Pat; Durland, Amy ; Durland, Jane ; Ferraioli Doran, Sue ; Goodwin, Bill and Kathy ; Donaldson, Elise ; Durland, Velma ; Garner, Larry & Melissa ; Dubow, David & Barbara; Brooks, Don and Norma; Mains, Rob; Hanewald, Ann and Tom

Subject: Re: Benthic Barrier

Joy,

Thanks for doing all the research you've done on the invasive water weeds. You've done a lot of good legwork and gathered information and prices that undoubtedly will help us make a decision. Most of us agree that we need to do something about the weeds. And while they are a nuisance, they are not an emergency concern, and we need to wait for a time when all the members can discuss and vote on the issue- for the following reasons:

- Last fall, I spoke with members who had not been present at our Labor Day meeting with Bob Taylor. (You were correct about who was present with one exception - Jane Brooks was also there). People were relieved to hear that we had decided to get input from all the members before taking any action. Other concerns that were raised included: How well will the barriers hold up to ultraviolet radiation and people walking on them? Will the barriers be slippery or dangerous to walk on? Finally, placing the barriers behind only those boats on boat lifts wasn't very popular.
- We need to have money budgeted for weed control before we can proceed with a plan. \$5000 isn't a trivial amount of money, and money earmarked for "Trees" should remain in that pot until such time as we vote to reallocate it.
- We should consider other options for controlling the weeds. I did some research on various weed control options. I attended the 1st Annual Finger Lakes Research Conference in Geneva last October (sponsored by Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association) and got some good information about invasive weeds and their control. Whitney (King) researched and forwarded information on a few mechanical lake weed cutters. One is hand held and battery powered. Another can be dragged along the end of a boat. I have contacted the companies and am waiting to receive information about price & availability. It is possible that we will be able to control our entire lakefront weed issue at a fraction of the cost of the benthic barriers.

Thanks again for your hard work and patience. I'll look forward to input from everyone and include this as an agenda item for our meeting on Saturday July 1.

Lew

EBHOFF@aol.com wrote:

Dear Lew, Don, Dave, Tom, and Larry,

I think I have everyone who met with Robert Taylor about the Benthic Barrier to get rid of our weeds, and have also copied Rob as treasurer, but correct me if I am wrong.

To recap, I contacted Dennis Fagan, a professional engineer who lives on Waneta Lake and had successfully eliminated the weeds in that lake. He said they used a sonar system that kills the roots, but that it took about 7 years to get DEC approval. Applied Biological of New Jersey were their contractors. He said there were other methods using a contact herbicide and also a new product coming but not approved by NYS. He suggested that I call SLPW and get their best suggestion, and he agreed to help if he could.

I then called SLPW and they suggested the Benthic Barrier. Then I called Robert Taylor who has installed many barriers and as you know we met with him.

He explained that the barrier lasts for 5-6 years. We described the area that needed to be covered (area behind everyone's boat lift and the swimming areas around the main dock and around Don's). He estimated that it was close to 5000 square feet which would mean a \$5000 cost (\$1 per square foot). He wanted to install them last fall, but if we didn't do it then, we should do it as soon as possible in the spring. I emailed Rob and explained the cost which comes down to about \$90 per cottage/per year over the life of the barrier, and he said there was no money in the budget.

So here we are -- time is of the essence if we hope to have a weed free lake this summer. If we wait until our meeting(s) we have lost the season.

What do you want to do? Will there be any money left in the 05-06 budget? Can we budget it for

06-07 and yet get it done now? With our capital reserve, plus maybe some from the tree budget of 05-06 which hasn't been used we would come close. The time to decide is now. Joy

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