

**Mosquito Control District**

**April 23, 2009**

Minutes approved 5/28/09

The Litchfield Mosquito Control District held a meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room:

**Members present:** Alfred Raccio, Chairman  
John Latsha, Vice Chairman  
Joan McKibben

Chairman Raccio called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Raccio called the roll: All members were present.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

There was no public input.

**VIDEO PRODUCTION**

Janice Raccio came before the Committee to talk about video production. Mr. Raccio asked the members if they had any objection to Mrs. Raccio helping out with the storyboard draft for the video production. She has a video production background. The members had no objection.

Chairman Raccio said at the last meeting there were a number of discussions regarding content as to what may or may not be presented. He said Mr. Latsha had ideas as to a one-on-one interview with Mr. Michael Morrison (Municipal Pest Management) and Mrs. McKibben had ideas on various content. Mr. Raccio had brought up about breaking the production into three segments.

Mrs. Raccio went on to explain what a storyboard is in the video world. It was said that the Cable Committee has approved Rob Faye to help the Committee with the video production.

Mrs. Raccio: The storyboard follows a script. A storyboard can be a sheet of paper showing the director and the film crew, what shot you want and where you want it in the script. The moderator follows the script and following the script someone is speaking.

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Mr. Raccio said that this is only one thought; this is what Rob gave us to work with but it does not have to be this. It can also be thirty (30) minutes of talking heads.

Mrs. Raccio said that Mr. Faye is a very good writer but the script needs work from #8 on. She pointed out that right now there is about 14 minutes of time so there is a lot of space to fill with more content. She said it could be three 10 minute segments, or half hour, whatever works for the Committee.

Mr. Raccio: One of the constraints we have, we have the resource from the Cable Committee to do one 25 to 30 minute production and then as we talk with Mr. Faye about that the idea of splitting it into three segments that can stand alone but compile that time and if funding is permitted, we can take Segment 1 and expand on Segment 1 in mini series throughout the summer; or expand on Segment 2 when it is time to worry about self protection.

Mrs. McKibben: So, you are talking about the segments within the half hour because he was not willing to do more than half an hour.

Mr. Raccio: Right, but the three segments that we started with in that first half hour, three 10 minute segments and then as the summer goes on, Segment 1 is about prevention; get rid of all the tires; Segment 2 is about personal protection - hey they are air borne; we are putting up our reports on the web, our monthly reports from Mike and then Segment 3 is the conclusion when all our hard work is done and preparing for the winter given that mosquitoes still live through the winter. So, making sure that anything collected over the summer is taken care of; pool covers - maybe add a drop of pool chlorine to your water that collects so they cannot breed in it.

Mrs. Raccio suggested checking the Cable Committee's policy to see what they want to do - 10 minutes or 30 minute segments. You could write it so it could be chopped up into segments.

It was said that Mr. Morrison had done a video for Portsmouth and Raymond and maybe the Committee could obtain copies of those videos. Mr. Raccio: One of the things discussed was keeping this at a high enough level that Litchfield is recognized and our production could be offered to other towns. Keep it our content. Another action is to get a copy of the Raymond's film.

Mrs. McKibben suggested in the video having someone walk around a yard showing roof gutters, pool covers, etc. pointing out critical areas.

Another action item is to draft a script. Mrs. McKibben asked Mrs. Raccio if she would be willing to work with the Committee to draft an outline of a script. She agreed. The Committee will meet May 8<sup>th</sup> at 16 Bear Run Drive at 6:00 p.m. The Committee will

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have Messrs. Faye and Morrison in on May 21, 2009. With this Mrs. Raccio left the meeting.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Latsha provided the Board with a copy of The Declaration of Purpose to be discussed at the next meeting. Mrs. McKibben asked if the RSA (pertaining to Mosquito Control District) is specific for just controlling mosquitoes. The RSA was reviewed.

Mr. Raccio: The other thing that we can do now that we have the Plan, the draft is the plan, we can make sure that not only are we compliant with the RSA but we can draft our statement against our Plan as well. It talks to everything you are talking about - the control, the self- protection; all of those types of things.

## **MCD MOSQUITO CONTROL PLAN**

Mr. Raccio had emailed the 2009 Plan to the members. Mr. Raccio: The action I had to map the new links into the Plan and then check on the ordinance statement of the Plan and what I did is took the website and looked at the links and in places where we had links in our plan, actually embedded where those links are and pointed to them. We move to the issue of the ordinance, I put a statement in there “we are currently examining the appropriate language for the Town ordinance”. I didn’t want to take it out completely because on public record we had submitted the revised ordinance to the Board of Selectmen and we are waiting on their decision. So, that is what I put in on that. Then as you go through the rest of the Plan, we had comments in there that said notify the Board of Selectmen that Litchfield has a comprehensive mosquito control plan 2007 and we have other points that said in cases of dead birds, you report that to the Selectmen and the Health Officer.

Mr. Raccio said that the Committee has not received any feedback from the Selectmen regarding the ordinance. Further review of the Plan went on. The members are okay with the language for submittal.

Mr. Raccio **MOTIONED** to submit to the State the Town of Litchfield’s Surveillance Prevention and Response Plan for 2009 mosquito season. Mr. Latsha seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. Mr. Raccio will submit the Plan to the State of N.H. Department of Health.

## **MCD WEBSITE**

There is an open action item of sending conservation links to John Brunelle. Mrs. McKibben said she would email him regarding this matter.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

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One action is to provide Selectman Lambert with a report of the MCD meetings for him to report on at the Selectmen's meeting under district/committee reports. Mrs. McKibben will take that action. This would be a short report of the highlights of the MCD meeting.

**Letter to businesses** - The Board reviewed the letter written by Mr. Latsha to be sent to local businesses thanking them for their assistance in distributing mosquito flyers. It will be placed on MCD letterhead and Mrs. McKibben will forward the letters. A flyer will be provided with the letter.

**Videos** - Mr. Latsha said he could not find any free videos but as mentioned at the last meeting, he can purchase them. Action is closed.

**BTI** - Mrs. McKibben said she did respond to Mr. Morrison's email on the Audubon and it was the same response that the Fish & Game had.

Mr. Raccio: What the Audubon is doing is similar to the N.H. Fish and Game Department: resource management and protection policies and part Section A provisions specific to mosquito control, the department will allow the use of biological control agents specifically BTI in natural wetlands and water bodies on land it administers as long as those wetlands and water bodies contain disease positive carrying mosquitoes in any of the preceding three years or current year.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Notices** - Public notices have gone out similar to what was done last year.

**Office appointments** - The Committee had voted on officers last September and Mr. Raccio asked if the Committee wants to continue with voting in September or change it to March. It was agreed to keep elections in September.

**Budgets** - The Committee is in receipt of the new budget showing expended items. Activity on the main contract has begun but no billing yet.

**Permission Form** - The permission form for residents to sign will be scanned and sent to John Brunelle to put on the web site.

**School/Recreation** - Mr. Raccio said he sent an email to Dr. Elaine Cutler, School Board, and Recreation member Pat Jewett, asking to meet with those boards to discuss mosquito prevention, etc.

**Meeting** - Mrs. McKibben and Kevin Lynch (Health Officer) attended a meeting on Vector-Borne diseases. The speaker was Dr. Jason Stull from UNH. Mrs. McKibben went on to talk about the different types of ticks and Lyme disease.

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Mr. Raccio: I would like to “thank” the Board for all the work it has been challenged with. We have a few more months of some pretty expensive amounts but our technical hurdles of getting things in compliance, if they do not beat us over the report, then we can

focus on and refine our Mission Statement. We can focus on self educating plans, all the things we need to get organized and ready to head up what is being called a potentially tough season. We can focus our efforts on all of that.

There being no further business, Mr. Raccio **ENTERTAINED A MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. McKibben **SO MOVED**. Mr. Latsha seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Lorraine Dogopoulos  
Recording Secretary