

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD

Mosquito Control District

May 28, 2009

Minutes Approved 8/28/09

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

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

ROLL CALL: Chairman Raccio called the roll: All members present.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

MISSION STATEMENT

The MCD Committee has been working on updating the Mission Statement to reflect the new 2009 Mosquito Control Plan. Chairman Raccio has collected sample statements from Florida and Portsmouth and he will provide a draft of the statement. Mrs. McKibben read from the Florida statement and will forward it to the Chairman to incorporate into a document.

MINUTES

Mr. Latsha **MOTIONED** to approve the April 9, 2009, minutes as written. Mrs. McKibben seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. The minutes will be posted on the Town website.

Mr. Latsha **MOTIONED** to approve the April 23, 2009, minutes as written. Mrs. McKibben seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. A copy will be posted on the Town's website. A copy will also be sent to Selectman Lambert.

MOSQUITO CONTROL PLAN

The 2009 Plan was submitted to the State and Chairman Raccio will check on the acceptance of the Plan next week.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Raccio went over some of the action items to be completed.

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Action 9 - Information regarding cost of signs. There is no cost because signs used last year are durable. Action Item 9 is closed.

Action 10 - This is the letter to be sent to businesses thanking them for their help in distributing posters. The letter was signed and a flyer regarding mosquito and tick information will be sent with the letter. The flyer was discussed and it was said to hide the company name on the flyer. The Committee has permission to use the flyer. It does say public service notice on the flyer. Mr. Raccio is not in favor of modifying the flyer and said he prefers to check with Town Counsel to make sure there is no issue. Action Item 10 will be closed 5-29-09.

Action 12 - Mrs. McKibben will send Mr. Brunelle the link for those residents interested in building bat boxes. Mrs. McKibben said she will contact Mr. Brunelle to send the link to place on the mosquito website. Mr. Raccio said he can scan the information and create the pdf's and then get it posted.

Action 14 - Links on Town website to the School District's website. Mr. Brunelle had said he can talk to their technical coordinator. Mr. Raccio will check on the status.

Action 15 – Links to Pest Management's website. Mr. Raccio said he has sent a communication to Mike Morrison of Municipal Pest Management and he is waiting an answer. He should have the status by tomorrow.

Action 17 - Mission Statement (see above)

Action 18 - The MCD Committee set up meetings with the School Board, the Recreation Commission and Library to discuss general mosquito awareness to include self-protection, etc. The Committee is scheduled to meet with the School Board on June 3, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Raccio to follow-up with the Recreation Commission and Library via email.

Action 23 - Send Conservation Commission links to John Brunelle. Joan was to send John embedded links. Links from MCD website to the Conservation Commission's page. This needs to be addressed because at this time the Conservation web page is not up and running. Action Closed.

Action 24 – Start work on storyboards for video production. This is an ongoing item.

Action 26 - Mrs. McKibben to send minutes to John Brunelle. Action closed 5-29-09.

Action 30 - Copy of Raymond's DVD - Not able to get a copy. Action Closed

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Action 31 - Draft outline of a script. This is an ongoing item.

Action 34 - Draft declaration of purpose is also the Mission Statement. Duplicate

MCD MEETINGS

The next MCD meeting is June 25, 2009. The meetings are usually held the fourth Thursday of the month and the August meeting is scheduled on the third Thursday.

Mr. Raccio **MOTIONED** to move the August 20th meeting to August 27th. Mr. Latsha seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. A new updated notice will be posted.

WORK SESSION

Mrs. McKibben said she had spoken with a biologist from Atlantic Pest Solutions who visits school districts to talk about mosquitoes and ticks. Mrs. McKibben said that instead of reinventing the wheel (making a video) that this biologist said that she would be glad to give a 45-minute power point presentation at no obligation to the Town. Mrs. McKibben said that the Committee could maybe use the power point, or the Committee could interview her, or she could interview the Committee, or the Committee could ask her specific questions and tailor their script to answer the Committee's questions.

Again, there is no obligation to the Town and the company is not seeking business. Atlantic Pest Solutions is a certified green company. Mrs. McKibben thought this was a great idea rather than the Committee spending hours trying to get the script right, etc. Mr. Raccio had reservations dealing with another company because the Town has contractual obligations with a current company. Mr. Raccio: This whole view of a production is Town oriented, and it is our production facilities, for our Town; it is by us. Using a pre cam scripted presentation modified detracts.

Mrs. McKibben: We do not know that until we see it. Mr. Raccio: If we use the power point presentation as a notional guide for actual video production work and not talking heads or slide presentation, then yes. If it is to stimulate ideas on our segments, yes, I agree with it. If it is a notional view to have her come in and speak on behalf of us, no, I am dead set against that.

Mrs. McKibben said that she said she would show the power point. Mrs. McKibben said that she would get a copy of the power point. Mr. Raccio said it would be a good idea to view it to see what could be tailored to the Committee's first view of having a local production showing the community and talking about various attributes, gutters, etc. Mrs. McKibben: If we were going to do that at a minimum that is a wonderful place to start. I am not for one willing to sit for twelve hours on a summer night trying to figure out how

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we are going to do a production. That is why I thought the fact that they have this already, we wouldn't have to reinvent it.

Talk went on as to ten-minute segment production and using some of the information from Atlantic. It was said that 10-minute segments are more manageable. Mr. Raccio said it could be filmed at someone's house. The first segment would be filmed with Rob Faye and then the second segment with Mike Morrison and the last segment would be on self-protection and it would all be Litchfield's and no artificial endorsements, infringements, etc. Mr. Raccio to contact Mr. Faye and then the Committee needs to determine the bullets, language, etc. and when to meet with Mr. Faye. Mr. Raccio said that he does not think it would take twelve hours.

Talk ensued. Mr. Raccio said that people wonder where \$30,000 is being spent. Last year 60,000 specimens were tested and the good news is there were no positive signs so he feels the money was spent wisely.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Pest Management - In an email on May 11, 2009, from Michael Morrison, he stated he would check on the property known as Tax Map 12 Lot 18 south of the Library. Also, he found a site that would qualify for restoration money. The property is wetlands infested with invasive phragmites. He needs to apply for the funds by June 5, 2009. Mr. Morrison is preparing a grant application for the restoration project funded by the State. The Board of Selectmen has to give their permission. Mr. Raccio will notify the Selectmen of MCD's recommendation. The next Selectmen's meeting is June 8th and the Conservation Commission meets on June 4th.

Catch basin clean out - Mr. Latsha asked if the new Road Agent is coordinating the catch basin cleaning with Mike Morrison to make sure catch basins are not being cleaned after Pest Management has applied their treatment. Mr. Morrison and the Road Agent will be notified.

There being no further business, Mr. Raccio **ENTERTAINED A MOTION** to adjourn. Mrs. McKibben **SO MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Latsha seconded. Motion carried 3-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Lorraine Dogopoulos
Recording Secretary