

BALL POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Special Meeting

September 6, 2023, at 7:00 pm

Senior Center Community Room

The Ball Pond Advisory Committee closely monitors the water quality and living community comprising Ball Pond: applying best lake management practices, and encouraging good stewardship by the watershed community, to ensure the health of the lake for current and future generations, as well as for the wildlife that relies upon it.

In attendance: Committee Members: Mary Yulo, Monica Santos, Frank Yulo

*Meeting did not have a quorum.

1. Call to Order- 7:05 Monica calls meeting to order.

2. Approval of August 1, 2023, meeting minutes- Mary motions, Frank seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

3. Committee membership status and recruitment- Frank Yulo is now permanent member of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee.

-Monica proposes keeping track of when each member is due for renewal.

-Monica and George Buck both renewed membership in August/September.

-Committee discusses the day of future meetings; return to Tuesday nights or continue next year with Wednesday nights.

-Monica will check in with Town Hall to see that open positions have been posted.

-There are no upcoming votes in the next few meetings; but more members will be needed for the budget vote by the new year.

4. Follow up on conversations with neighbors regarding Brook debris removal and DEEP permit- George and Gary used rebar to measure brook 6 feet across and staked out area.

5. Larry's Report- Good report.

-Large population of Dolichospermum at 21 feet.

- Dolichospermum can regulate buoyancy, and it appears to be going deeper into the water to take advantage of phosphorus rather than closer to the surface to take advantage of the sun.

-Committee will receive a year-end summary from Larry, as is contracted.

-Larry will continue to do work for the committee in the next year.

6. WestConn Report- Very low microcystin count.

-Saxitoxin didn't show up until August last year, Dr. Wong reported they did not have enough test kits; didn't realize they had depleted their supply of kits, and have none left to test for Saxitoxin,

-Dr. Wong offered to test for Saxitoxin next year if the committee can pay for the tests.

- Estimated cost would be \$600-700 for kits, could be built into next year's budget.
- Monica suggests that next year, the committee could reduce the term with Brawley and the funds could instead be used for Dr. Wong and his students to test for Saxitoxin as to avoid any budget increase.
- Committee suggests asking Dr. Wong to come present a year-end summary alongside Larry.

7. Update from FOBP- FOBP didn't meet in August.

-Next meeting is scheduled in the fall to plan the next event.

-Cynthia Rabinowitz is coming to New Fairfield to consult on rain gardens, FOBP members were invited.

-Holiday party tentatively planned for first week of December.

8. Follow up conversation around carp activity and recent Candlewood Lake activities- None.

9. New Business- None.

10. Adjournment- 7:38 Mary motions, Frank seconds. All in favor, motion passes.

Received by email on 09/11/2023 @ 8:30 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield