

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES (REVISED)**

February 13, 2007

7:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2007 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Committee Chair Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Walter Hope, Helen Gallagher, and Maureen Dangelo were also in attendance. George Buck and Terry Lent were absent.

Approval of Minutes:

Maureen Dangelo made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 16, 2006 meeting as presented. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- With accepted HR job application in hand, Cynthia Stevens introduced the new Ball Pond Advisory Committee Recording Secretary: Darlene Anderson-Alexander (4 Meeting House Hill Circle; (203)746-9102; [dandalex@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dandalex@sbcglobal.net)) to replace Suzanne Kloos.
- A check for \$340.00 processed by the Town Finance Department will be sent to the Friends of Ball Pond as reimbursement for a round of water testing conducted last year; Darlene Anderson-Alexander will mail to Karen Schall.
- Cynthia Stevens reported a current budget balance of \$4149.00 with \$1000 outstanding to be paid to George Benson for weed monitoring studies and reports completed in December 2006.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- Cynthia Stevens raised the on-going issue of noise pollution created by motorcycles on State Route 39 on the Westside of Ball Pond, especially on Saturdays and Sundays.
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that there was a Connecticut State Bill (#5487) passed in February 2006 specifically designed to reduce extensive noise from motorcycles. Motorcycles are required to have mufflers and for their noise not to exceed a certain decibel level. The fine for the first two offenses is \$150.00 followed by a revoked registration.
  - Discussion ensued about how to address this issue related to Ball Pond: Can the State Troopers monitor noise pollution on Route 39? Should there be signs posted? Should the EPA be involved? Several residents would be willing to have monitoring devices on their properties. A clear connection to the effect on Ball Pond and its community should be made in order for this committee to be involved. A first step would be to monitor the noise levels and see if they do indeed exceed the limits allowed by law.
  - ***Helen Gallagher made a motion stating that the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will explore the issue of vehicular noise pollution in the Ball Pond area. Maureen Dangelo seconded the motion.***

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

New Business:

- North end runoff
  - Cynthia Stevens brought up the issue of runoff from storm drains filling in the lake; specifically looking at the north end.
  - Cynthia Stevens spoke with Jane Didona (landscape architect) who suggested staking out the sandbar(s) *by Benson Environmental and a surveyor*, having the composition analyzed by a geologist (to establish responsibility), and, ultimately, having the sandbar(s) excavated.
  - Discussion ensued: An inventory should be done on the entire pond; a comprehensive plan should be developed and presented to the Inland Wetlands Commission; ways to stop the runoff should be considered prior to dredging; some of this needs to be paid for in this fiscal year.
  - ***Walter Hope made a motion stating that the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will proceed with a plan to map out the non-point source pollution in Ball Pond.***

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

- Ownership of Ball Pond
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that there is a question as to who owns Ball Pond as all Town records were burned in the 1800s. There is some immediate concern because the Department of *Public Health* recently contacted Danbury about looking at Ball Pond as a possible source of water for the City.
  - Cynthia Stevens would like to have a title search conducted by a title search company or a lawyer to investigate this matter.
  - Discussion ensued: we should find out how Danbury responded to the DEP (and we can through FOI); Cynthia Stevens will write a letter to Mayor Boughton (Danbury) requesting a copy of the City's response; we should investigate how much this title search will cost.
  - ***Maureen Dangelo made a motion stating that the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will pursue work to establish the ownership of Ball Pond. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.***

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, March 15, 2007 at 8:15 p.m. in Town Hall.
- ***Walter Hope made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Maureen Dangelo seconded the motion.***

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary