

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

April 8, 2008

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2008 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also present. Walter Hope entered the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Brian Bosley was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

George Buck made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2008 regular meeting as written. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

Public Comment:

Old Business:

- . Sandbar Survey
  - . Cynthia Stevens reported that geologist Jim Mellett is prepared to survey the sandbar at the north end of Ball Pond, with the help of Ball Pond Advisory Committee members and Ball Pond area neighbors, on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. barring heavy rain or wind.
  - . Volunteers are to meet at Brian Bosley's house at 11:00; the process is expected to take 2 hours. Cynthia Stevens, Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and resident Mary Yulo will definitely be on hand to help; Walter Hope will try to attend.
  - . Cynthia Stevens will confirm with Jim Mellett the exact number of volunteers needed and will pursue additional people if necessary; George Buck will bring life jackets.
  - . Cynthia Stevens spoke with Bob Miller, Growth and Environment columnist from the Danbury News-Times about covering this event. There may be a reporter/photographer available; if not, something will definitely be written about the survey.
- . Candlewood Lake Initiative
  - . Cynthia Stevens reported on the continuation of the small, ad hoc group of Candlewood and Ball Pond residents; they have no name and no authority (i.e., not connected to any Board or Commission), but have established a dialogue on environmental issues.
  - . The CLA will be requesting an Environmental Review Team (ERT) to look at the entire watershed. Information on ERTs may be found at [www.ctert.org](http://www.ctert.org). There is a belief that the opinions of the experts who make up the ERT will be able to bridge the gaps in data between the currently available scientific knowledge and the recommended conservation measures which will potentially affect property owners in the lake communities. Storm water management would be an important part of the study. It is hoped that the ERT will lead to an RFP so that among other things, consultants could produce a cost/benefit analysis.
- . Ball Pond Outlet

- Reviewed research conducted by Sean Hayden (Soil Scientist from the Northwest Conservation District) on the Outlet Structure Modification at Ball Pond
- Consensus is not to divert the water – but then what CAN be done? Discussion ensued regarding plunge pool designs, dredging, manually cleaning the gate periodically, the impact and feasibility of operating trucks on Land Trust property
- Cynthia Stevens will contact Public Works about obtaining the key to the gate and will discuss dredging with Tim Simpkins and Tom Quigley
- Waterfront Residential District
  - At the Zoning Commission Public Hearing on 3/27/08, Mary Yulo, Friends of Ball Pond secretary, read into the record a memo from Cynthia Stevens, Ball Pond Advisory Committee dated 3/17/08 to the Zoning Commission asking the Commission to table the Waterfront Residential district. The memo had been approved by the BPAC and previously sent to Zoning, but apparently was lost. Ms. Yulo submitted the copy to the Zoning Enforcement officer for the record
  - Cynthia Stevens expressed confusion about the Zoning process because the public hearing had not been well publicized, apart from a small legal notice, and other letters sent to Zoning about the WRD reportedly also were lost.
- 160 Ball Pond Road
  - A new application was submitted at the Conservation/Inland Wetlands Commission meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>. The application was deemed incomplete and therefore not accepted.
  - Residents have gathered 100 signatures on a petition to force a public hearing about this application. The petition will be submitted at the next I/W Commission meeting on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. It is presumed that a public hearing will be scheduled in May
  - Cynthia Stevens encouraged all Ball Pond Advisory Committee members to attend the public hearing. At the next meeting, members should be prepared to discuss technical issues and research regarding the key disputed points of this application. An opening statement will be written which will be read by Cynthia Stevens at the public hearing.

New Business:

- Hahlawah Preserve update
  - Cynthia Stevens clarified that the Land Trust owns this property; Friends of Ball Pond are the stewards
  - There has been a great deal of site work done by the Land Trust (taking down dead trees), the Boy Scouts (see memo), and the Friends (\$1500 of native plantings to come).

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Walter Hope made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Terry Lent seconded the motion.  
Vote: 5-0-0; Motion Approved

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary