

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

May 13, 2008

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

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

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 8, 2008 regular meeting as written. Walter Hope seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-1 (Motion Approved)

Walter Hope made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 29, 2008 special meeting as amended. George Buck seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-2 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

Cynthia Stevens reported she received an email from Jay Waterman in the Finance Department stating that, "**All** of the operation and cap & non lines on the attached worksheet are **frozen** until June 15th ... They are on hold until mid June when we will have a much clearer picture of the town's finances for FY07-08." Committee chairs are encouraged to contact the Finance Department if extenuating circumstances arise which require immediate availability of funds. As part of the grass carp project, the State mandates water quality testing in June. Cynthia Stevens will contact Jay Waterman to apprise him of this situation and to ask for the funds necessary to pay for the testing.

Public Comment:

Old Business:

- . Sandbar Survey
 - . Cynthia Stevens reported that the dedicated New Fairfield reporter from the News-Times is interested in writing about the use of Ground Penetrating Radar and would like to come out with a photographer when Jim Mellett conducts the actual core sampling.
 - . Jim Mellett may be looking at the week of May 19th to do the core sampling. Brian Bosley is often available weekdays during the afternoon or evening. Walter Hope's daughter, Katelyn, is also interested in helping with this process.
 - . As a side note, Walter Hope reported that his neighbor and her nephew confronted the person fishing for carp (who returned this past Saturday and was seen catching a carp); the man claimed that he was catching and releasing.
 - . George Buck will hang additional signs.
 - . Cynthia Stevens will contact Peter Aarrestad from the State DEP to alert him as the carp are part of a specific environmental protection project and therefore private property
- . Candlewood Lake Initiative
 - . Cynthia Stevens reported that the small, ad hoc group of Candlewood and Ball Pond residents and the CLA (under the direction of Larry Marsicano) have officially requested an

Environmental Review Team (ERT) to take a comprehensive look at the entire watershed and offer recommendations. The hope is that the request will be answered by September and then the DEP will provide a grant to fund an RFP.

- Terry Lent asked if Zoning knows about the application. Cynthia Stevens replied that Zoning has been notified that the application was submitted.
- Brian Bosley commented that this is all futile if there's no enforcement of regulations.

Ball Pond Outlet

- Cynthia Stevens said that she hadn't approached resident Mrs. Weldon about using her property to access the Outlet for dredging purposes yet.
- Cynthia Stevens reported that Bruce Lockhart has a "vacuum-type" machine that sucks sediment into bags and is used by divers in the water. This may be useful in the Outlet.
- Cynthia Stevens now has a key to the grate; will give it to George Buck since he is the one who maintains the grate with some consistency.
- A discussion of the purpose and probable outcome of dredging the Outlet ensued. The consensus was that there is no practical solution to the Outlet issue at this time; plans for action were tabled.
- 160 Ball Pond Road
 - First Selectman Hodge has issued a directive to the Ball Pond Advisory Committee members to recuse themselves from future discussions of this property at Ball Pond Advisory Committee meetings.

New Business:

- Correction of November 13, 2007 Ball Pond Advisory Committee Minutes
 - First Selectman John Hodge last week in a phone call brought inconsistencies in the minutes of the November 13, 2007 meeting to the attention of BPAC chair Cynthia Stevens, who committed to corrections for clarification. Brian Bosley made a motion to make the following revisions to the minutes of the November 13, 2007 regular meeting:

(as written)

- Cynthia Stevens attended meeting, referenced in minutes of October 20, 2007, with John Hodge, Tony Iadorola, David Day, and Don Smith (of Roald Haestad)
 - John Hodge explained that New Fairfield has its own water issues due to the 30 wells in downtown New Fairfield that have been contaminated with volatile organic compounds contained in dry cleaning fluids
 - On the surface, it seems that the Danbury Water Plan would not be a problem for Ball Pond or Ball Pond Brook but BPAC members were dubious
 - "Danbury" would only "skim" Ball Pond, taking water on in the winter (therefore, minimal impact on recreation)
 - they would ensure minimum flow to protect the fisheries

(revised)

- Cynthia Stevens attended meeting, referenced in minutes of October 20, 2007, with John Hodge, Tony Iadorola, David Day, and Don Smith (of Roald Haestad)
 - John Hodge, **who attended the Ball Pond Advisory Committee meeting**, explained that New Fairfield has its own water issues due to the 30 wells in downtown New Fairfield that have been contaminated with volatile organic compounds contained in dry cleaning fluids
 - **The Danbury Water Plan identifies Ball Pond Brook as a potential water source for Danbury, not Ball Pond itself.**
 - On the surface, it seems that the Danbury Water Plan would not be a problem for Ball Pond **Brook** but BPAC members were dubious.
 - "Danbury" would only "skim" Ball Pond **Brook**, taking water **out** in the winter
 - Danbury would ensure minimum flow to protect the fisheries

- ***John Hodge agreed to send a letter to the State Department of Health stating that Ball Pond Brook is not an option for Danbury.***

- Walter Hope seconded the motion
Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m.; Walter Hope seconded the motion.
Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary