

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

June 10, 2008

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:57 p.m. George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also present. Brian Bosley and Walter Hope were not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2008 regular meeting as written. George Buck seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-1 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Cynthia Stevens reported that the Ball Pond Advisory Committee budget for '08-'09 is \$5,187.
- Cynthia Stevens will be out of town in July and the first week in August. Helen Gallagher will chair the July Ball Pond Advisory Committee meeting.
- Cynthia Stevens entertained a motion to add "Town Beach" and "Weed Survey" to the agenda under "New Business". Helen Gallagher made the motion as presented. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

- Sandbar Survey
  - Jim Mellett is looking at the first week in July to conduct the core sampling. Walter Hope's daughter, Katelyn, and Kristin Torre (both students) are interested in helping with this process.
  - Cynthia Stevens will connect with Brian Bosley. Brian Bosley will work out the logistics of the actual core sampling day with Jim Mellett. Terry Lent has been in contact with Jim Mellett regarding the plastic planters that she will provide.
  - Discussion ensued regarding the condition of the lake. See "New Business – Weed Study".
- 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 not heard back about their request for 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.
  - The members of the ad hoc group are: Cynthia Stevens, Bob Stryker (Candlewood Isle), Jim McAlister, Tim Simpkins, and Larry Marsicano (CLA)
  - Discussion took place regarding the possibility of Ball Pond being a good breeding ground for zebra mussels because of high calcium content in the water; no consensus about how much of a problem this might be.

- Cynthia Stevens reported that the Candlewood Lake Authority has plans to conduct a controlled study introducing weevils into the lake to control weeds. The Ball Pond Advisory Committee should monitor how effective this is as a possibility for future use in Ball Pond.
- Cynthia Stevens reported that the ad hoc group is looking at storm water management
  - The Town of Southeast has a storm water filtration system that Cynthia Stevens is trying to find out more about. All agreed that this is an important issue for Ball Pond.
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that the storm drains across from the Town Beach on Rte 39, and Gillotti are clogged/not functioning properly. She has been in contact with Steve Merullo (Town Department of Buildings and Grounds and Department of Parks and Recreation) Bobby Rzasas, Department of Public Works, has contacted someone in the State. Cynthia Stevens will follow up.
- Ball Pond Outlet
  - Discussion followed about the weeds and algae and about the fact that the stream is dry.

#### New Business:

- Town Beach
  - Cynthia Stevens noted a pile of rubble near the Town Beach. She spoke with Steve Merullo (Town Department of Buildings and Grounds and Department of Parks and Recreation) who reported that the Town is cleaning up the Town Beach (i.e., removal of old structures that posed safety hazards, not encouraging people to swim). They will not bring in new sand, but hope to reclaim the grass. If grass does grow, the Town will mow it.
  - As an aside, George Buck reported that bass and trout fishing is great this season due, in part, to a change in the stocking schedule (for trout).
- Weed Survey
  - Discussion of the condition of Ball Pond. Members reported seeing large quantities of single-cell algae, water lilies, milfoil, filamentous algae, and smelling a foul odor (especially at the south end).
  - Cynthia Stevens has asked Bruce Lockhart to do an evaluation of the entire lake. She will report back to the Ball Pond Advisory Committee with his recommendations (possibly “vacuuming” which will need to be paid for from the Ball Pond Advisory Committee weed budget and/or supplemented by the Friends of Ball Pond).
  - Peter Aarrestad (State DEP) will conduct a dive at the end of July. Consensus of Ball Pond Advisory Committee members present is that additional carp are needed.

#### Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- George Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.; Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary