

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

April 14, 2009

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Brian Bosley (entered at 7:09), George Buck, Helen Gallagher, Walter Hope, and Terry Lent were also present.

Approval of Minutes:

Helen Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2009 regular meeting as written. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-1 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

Cynthia Stevens reported that there is \$1068.39 remaining in the budget for this fiscal year (ends 6/30/09); \$610 is allocated for the Secretary's salary and \$407 for weed control.

Public Comment:

None at meeting. Cynthia Stevens reported receiving a phonecall from a man regarding the use of electric motors on Ball Pond. She told the man that there is a Town ordinance preventing the use of motors and that both the Friends of Ball Pond and the Ball Pond Advisory Committee fully support the ordinance.

Old Business:

- Sandbar
  - Cynthia Stevens received permission from Selectman Hodge's office to contact the State DOT regarding Jim Mellett's study. She did so and is awaiting a reply.
  - The group agreed to hold a Special Meeting to walk around the lake and assess the condition of the storm drains prior to meeting with people from the State. The meeting will take place on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. starting at the Boat Launch. Cynthia Stevens will inform Jim Mellett about the meeting and Darlene Anderson-Alexander will post the meeting.
- Geese control
  - George Buck reported that he has state and federal permits to addle goose eggs.
  - George Buck explained goose egg-laying behaviors to the group. The addling should be done from now through mid-May. There are three steps to the process: 1) find nests by boat, 2) wait until the hen is finished laying eggs and is sitting on her nest, 3) chase the hen off the nest and oil each egg completely.
  - Brian Bosley offered to help George Buck with this process.
- Pink water lilies

- Cynthia Stevens contacted Bruce Lockhart. He will work with the \$400 budget until July. A Ball Pond resident wants to hire Mr. Lockhart privately, so there is a possibility to combine jobs (i.e., make it worthwhile for Mr. Lockhart to go out).
- The Friends are considering fundraising possibilities (maybe a barbeque) to help with the pink water lilies.
- Outlet
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that the Outlet looks low and doesn't look clogged.
  - George Buck said that he would be able to clean it out without opening the grate.

#### New Business:

- Cynthia Stevens entertained a motion to add "Storm Drain Communication" to the agenda under New Business. Walter Hope made the motion. Terry Lent seconded the motion.  
Vote: 6-0-0
- Storm Drain Communication
  - Cynthia Stevens shared two pamphlets with the group ("Storm Sewers" – looking into additional copies – and "Tips for Cleaner Water"). Discussion ensued about the usefulness of sending information like this to all homeowners around the Lake or even in the whole Watershed. The consensus of the group was to look into postage, copying, and other logistical issues and to definitely pursue the idea of a mass communication in time for spring property clean-up.
- Other
  - Cynthia Stevens reported on the Candlewood Watershed Initiative. There was discussion at the last meeting of the ad hoc committee that Cynthia belongs to of initiating a certification process for lawn and landscape services to ensure the use of environmentally friendly methods. Enforcing something like this and getting homeowners to only hire "certified" contractors were noted by Ball Pond Advisory Committee members as some potential problems with this idea. Education of homeowners was thought to be the most effective method of protecting the Watershed.

#### Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Helen Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.; Terry Lent seconded the motion.  
Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary