

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

October 12, 2010

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also in attendance. Walter Hope was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Brian Bosley made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2010 regular meeting. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Cynthia Stevens received a hard copy of the State Department of Transportation checklist related to the proposed Town Park project. They approved the concept and are requesting a more detailed plan.
- Darlene Anderson-Alexander will check to see if the Inlands/Wetlands Commission will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month in 2011. If so, she will book the BPAC meetings for the second Tuesday of the month through the Selectman's Office.
- Cynthia Stevens reviewed the current financial status.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- Town Beach
 - Cynthia Stevens thanked Terry Lent and Helen Gallagher for appearing before the Selectmen.
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that it looks like \$10,000 will be available from the Town as a "challenge grant" (i.e., an additional \$10,000 will have to be raised in order that the proposed \$20,000 project will be completed correctly). If the project is not completed as planned within one year, the property will be returned to Parks and Recreation.
 - Cynthia Stevens, as a director of Friends of Ball Pond, will submit the Meserve Fund Grant application on behalf of Friends of Ball Pond on October 13th (via email and hard copy in U.S. Mail).
 - One issue that has come up is the need to replace/upgrade the fence. It's necessary for safety, but the cost to replace it could be prohibitive. George Buck and Brian Bosley will pursue the idea of wood lattice panels to attach to the pre-existing fence. This would be aesthetically more pleasing and not too expensive.
 - The group discussed the financial estimates that have been received to date and whether or not they seem to be realistic.
 - Cynthia Stevens shared copies of the lease between the Town of New Fairfield and Preserve New Fairfield. At the last Parks and Recreation meeting, this lease was suggested as a model for the proposed relationship between BPAC and the Town

regarding the Town Beach property. The consensus of the group was that this type of lease would not apply to the Town Beach since the BPAC is actually a Town entity and the Town will carry the necessary insurance for the proposed Town Park. Cynthia Stevens had previously discussed with First Selectman Hodge that the Friends of Ball Pond would maintain the property but not accept any liability. The lease also seems irrelevant since this project is a transfer of property between two Town committees. A maintenance agreement will have to be drawn up between the Town and the Friends of Ball Pond.

- Brian Bosley would like to verify that the property can only be returned to Parks and Recreation if the project is not completed as planned within one year or if the property is allowed to deteriorate. We still need to determine the criteria for “deterioration.”
- Timing will be the greatest challenge to getting this project started because of a variety of separate, yet interconnected, variables (i.e., Wetlands permit, Meserve grant funding decision, approval of the State DOT, need for a Town meeting, need to plant in the spring). George Buck suggested that the BPAC continue to work to have the property transferred to them and then deal with it.
- Cynthia Stevens brought up the issue of boat racks. Discussion ensued about what size rack(s) should be used, conducting a lottery for spots, charging money to have a spot, etc.
- Storm Drain Marking
 - Cynthia Stevens thanked George Buck and Brian Bosley for their efforts in applying the markers to the storm drains.
 - Some markers are left to be applied. Rivets are needed. Cynthia Stevens will see if Jim McAlister has a bag.
 - Educational literature about caring for the watershed is being disseminated around Town. The fact that this is occurring was put in the Meserve Fund application.

New Business:

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- George Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.; Brian Bosley seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary