

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

April 13, 2010

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also present. Walter Hope was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Brian Bosley made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2010 regular meeting. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Cynthia Stevens reported that the current remaining budget is somewhat misleading, as George Benson has not yet submitted his bill for work completed in the summer of '09. Cynthia Stevens will contact him again. As an aside, Brian Bosley also asked Cynthia Stevens to remind George Benson that he would like all previous years' reports sent to him electronically so that he can assimilate the data and generate comparisons and trends over time for the Ball Pond Advisory Committee to review. Cynthia Stevens will follow up.
- Cynthia Stevens read a letter addressed to the members of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee from the Friends of the Senior Center inviting them, as individuals, to sponsor a brick for the new garden at the Senior Center. Additional information may be found on the Senior Center website via a link from the Town Website, Senior Center page.
- Cynthia Stevens reported that the 3rd Annual Soil Testing Day will take place this Saturday, April 17 at Starbucks from 8:30-3:00 p.m. This is sponsored by the Candlewood Watershed Initiative. Concurrently, there will be a Free Environmental Seminar entitled "Good Design Protects the Watershed: Landscaping, Storm Water, and Milfoil" at the Community Center from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Jane Didona, Sean Hayden, and Greg Bugbee will be the speakers.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- Carp Re-stocking
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that she received correspondence from Pete Aarrestad, from the CT DEP Fisheries Division, stating that he will recommend re-stocking Ball Pond with 70-75 carp to the acting Fisheries Director.
  - Questions remain about whether this can be done this Spring.
  - It appears that the DEP believes that re-stocking the Pond every other year with about 75 fish is sufficient to keep the weeds under control.
- Town Park
  - Cynthia Stevens expressed concern that the \$10,000 that the Selectmen had initially put into the 2010-11 proposed budget for the Ball Pond Town Park may not have made it through the final mark-up.
  - Discussion ensued about options to address immediate issues should the money not come through. Ideas included: volunteer day to at least clean up the garbage (although this may be more appropriate for immediate neighbors of the property to

- get together and do), install a cheap filter/silt fence to curtail the damage from the run-off, ask the Town to come in with an excavator to retrieve some of the sand that has washed into the Pond and replace it on the shoreline (then install non-chemically treated railroad ties to maintain the shoreline).
- The consensus of the group was to wait until the final decision regarding the money is made and then, if necessary, adopt some strategies to deal with the property.
  - Storm Drain Marking
    - Cynthia Stevens reported that this program is still in process. Jim McAlister is continuing to work on getting necessary approvals. He is seeking to establish "Community Captains" (Cynthia Stevens volunteered to be the "Captain" for Ball Pond unless someone else is interested). He envisions marking 30%-50% of the drains in the watershed. There will be some choices of copy.
    - Brian Bosley expressed an interest in purchasing a couple of markers and attaching them to storm drains to see if they stay on, seem useful, etc. prior to undertaking such a huge project. Cynthia Stevens will speak with Jim McAlister about that idea.

New Business:

Other Comments:

- As an aside, Cynthia Stevens thanked George Buck for creating a rake for cleaning out the grate. It appears that people (i.e., walkers) are using the rake. Discussion ensued about what to do about the pile of debris that is forming near the grate. George Buck offered to take care of it.
- Brian Bosley reported on the canoes previously abandoned at Hahlawah Preserve. Brian Bosley removed two canoes – one metal; one fiberglass - from the Preserve land and moved them to the lakefront across from his property. An initial inspection revealed that they are in relatively good condition, although Brian Bosley will give them a more thorough looking-over. He will make any necessary minor repairs and then take them out on the lake to get a better sense of their condition and the price that bidding should be started at for each of them. Ideally, the canoes will be auctioned at the Annual Meeting of the Friends of Ball Pond on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- George Buck reported, as information, that the Pond was stocked with trout last week and that Opening Day is this Saturday, April 17, 2010.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Helen Gallagher 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