

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

May 10, 2011

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 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.

Approval of Minutes:

Brian Bosley made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2011 special meeting. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Cynthia Stevens entertained a motion to table the approval of the April 12, 2011 minutes until the next regular meeting. Terry Lent made the said motion. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- Town Park
  - Cynthia Stevens reported that the Parks and Recreation meeting on Monday and the site visit today went well. The next step will be for Steve Merullo, Director of Buildings and Grounds, to contact the State DOT to arrange a site visit to discuss what can be done on the State easement to alleviate the erosion issues.
  - George Buck reviewed some of the possible choices for addressing the issues. A curb could be installed on the Town Park side, but the State DOT might not like that because there is already curbing on the other side of the street (and therefore the potential for flooding). The curb could be installed, using the Town curbing machine, from one end of the Town Park to the other with rip rap swales on either end.
  - After the erosion issues are addressed, the property will be flattened and seeded. A retaining wall should be built at lake's edge. Brian Bosley and George Buck are willing to build the wall if Steve Merullo can provide the fieldstone.
  - Steve Merullo will file for a permit to be presented at the Conservation-Inlands/Wetlands meeting on Tuesday, May 17. He will ask for "Administrative Approval" to get it passed as quickly as possible so that work may begin. It would be helpful for BPAC members to be at the Inlands/Wetlands meeting to show support.
  - Cynthia Stevens asked for opinions on the fence.
    - Steve Merullo was apparently interested in removing it.
    - George Buck believes it serves three purposes: it deters children from running into traffic, it would serve to stop or slow down an out-of-control car, it sends a message against theft of boats.

- Terry Lent would like it replaced with something more visually pleasing. Brian Bosley said that that could be cost prohibitive. Terry Lent will price fencing.
- George Buck thinks it could be repaired.
- Brian Bosley suggests asking Parks and Recreation to replace it.
- Cynthia Stevens reported that Mary Yulo (Friends of Ball Pond) asked about possibly having another boat rack on the property. That seems like a viable option, especially if a lottery system to bring in some income is established.
- Pink water lilies
  - Cynthia Stevens contacted Chuck Lee (CT DEP), specifically about the oil leaking into Ball Pond. He said that he would look into it. She also asked his opinion about eradicating the pink water lilies. Lee's recommendation is to apply Rodeo aquatic herbicide. George Knoecklein, from Northeast Aquatic Research, suggested using a hydro-rake. Lee cautions against using this as it could bring in other species to the lake.
  - Helen Gallagher and Terry Lent brought up the possibility of using beavers to eat the lilies. The consensus was that that would probably not be a viable option since the beavers are so destructive.
  - George Buck brought up the possibility of cutting down the stalks with a sickle once a month. Cutting of the leaves and stalks would stop the photosynthesis process and eventually kill off the plants. George and Brian said that they could do this together if they could use a power boat. The group decided to try this approach.
  - Brian Bosley suggested that next year a lottery be set up with the boat launch and the proceeds of that could go to ridding the lake of pink water lilies. In the interim, he suggested using Benthic Barriers. George Knoecklein had suggested these, too.

#### New Business:

- Lyme disease prevention
  - Brian Bosley is concerned about the study being conducted by the CT DPH and the CDC via Yale University, especially in relation to the application of pesticides. Cynthia Stevens will contact Julie Ray, Project Director, for information.

#### Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.; George Buck seconded the motion.  
Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary