

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

May 3, 2011

7:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 in the Town Hall Title Searches Area

Cynthia Stevens (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher, and Terry Lent were also in attendance.

Old Business:

- Town Park
 - Cynthia Stevens posed the question to the group, "What is BPAC's position on the Town Park property given that the Merserve Grant was not received?" This discussion was in preparation for the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, May 9th.
 - At this point, the Town Park Plan proposed by Didona and Associates does not seem feasible, although it may be desirable in the future should additional funding become available.
 - Cynthia Stevens proposed suggesting that the \$10,000 allocated by the Town, initially as a matching grant, be used to remediate the most pressing problems with the property even though the anticipated grant was not received.
 - The consensus was that the following prioritized list be presented at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting describing what BPAC believes should be done with the property:
 - The property must be open to the public.
 - Erosion and other environmental concerns must be addressed.
 - The boat rack must be accessible as it was a Town-approved Eagle Scout project. A lottery system might be warranted.
 - The property should undergo some beautification (e.g., fence replaced, native plantings).
 - Brian Bosley and George Buck presented some possible ideas for addressing erosion concerns including building a berm, installing a pipe, and building a retaining wall. These ideas may be presented to Parks & Recreation in the future.
 - Terry Lent brought up the fact that Ball Pond Park is clearly mentioned in the Planning Commission's Plan of Conservation and Development currently under review.
 - The consensus was to present ideas that encourage working collaboratively with the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission in ways that best protect Ball Pond.
 - Cynthia Stevens will draft a letter to be read at the Parks and Recreation meeting on May 9th. She will circulate the letter via email for BPAC review. She will continue to pursue being added to the Parks and Recreation meeting agenda and encourages all BPAC members who are available to attend.

New Business:

- Oil Spill

- Cynthia Stevens has been in conversation with Town Sanitarian Tim Simpkins regarding the oil leaking into Ball Pond apparently from the storm drain north of Illion Road. The CT DEP was at the site today.
- Conversation ensued about the possible cause(s) of the leak. Cynthia Stevens will keep the Committee informed as she gets additional information.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Brian Bosley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.; Terry Lent seconded the motion.
Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary