

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

January 10, 2012

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher, Terry Lent were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Brian Bosley made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2011 meeting. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-1 (Motion Approved)

Cynthia Stevens entertained a motion to add "Purple Loosestrife" to the agenda under "Old Business". Terry Lent made the said motion. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

Public Comment:

Old Business:

- Purple Loosestrife
  - Cynthia Stevens updated the group on the purple loosestrife situation
    - Cynthia Stevens read from an internet source that the major concern with this species is that it takes over habitats and compromises other native species (fish, vegetation)
    - Cynthia Stevens has been pursuing information on biological controls (i.e. beetles) from Cornell University and the University of Minnesota. She has not received a response from either institution; Connecticut Cooperative Extension is not providing beetles anymore.
  - Discussion ensued about whether to address this issue and, if so, how to do it safely and cheaply.
    - Terry Lent continues to be opposed to introducing the beetles to combat the loosestrife as that seems to upset the natural construct of "survival of the fittest". She expressed concern about the ramifications of bringing in the beetles.
    - Brian Bosley will research the use of herbicides approved for aquatic use.
    - George Buck would recommend digging up the loosestrife or using a specific herbicide.
    - Cynthia Stevens will consult with Jane DiDona, landscape architect
    - Helen Gallagher noted that some property owners seem to encourage the growth of loosestrife since it is beautiful to look at.
  - The consensus of the group was to put together a written request to homeowners to work on removing the loosestrife from their properties. Included should be a brief

explanation of why the loosestrife is not desirable to have around as well as pictures of the plant and internet links to additional information. BPAC will ask Friends of Ball Pond to circulate this information via email through the Friends distribution list and maybe as a print flyer to be distributed door-to-door

New Business:

- Proposed Budget (FY2012-2013)
  - Committee chairs town wide were asked to submit budget requests with zero increase from FY 11-12 or, ideally, with a decrease.
  - Cynthia Stevens submitted a request for a zero-increase budget, but was able to move around line items to accurately reflect the needs of BPAC (i.e., increase in Materials and Supplies, decrease in Salaries).
  - Committee members expressed concerns that there are other needs on the Pond (e.g., eradication of yellow water lilies, dredging near the boat launch) that will require funding. Cynthia Stevens suggested that, at a future meeting, the Committee develop a list of priorities and then a plan for how to address them.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
  - George Buck remarked that he will be out of town until the April meeting.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.; Brian Bosley seconded the motion.  
Vote: 5-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary