

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

May 8, 2012

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. George Buck and Helen Gallagher were also in attendance. Brian Bosley and Terry Lent were absent.

Approval of Minutes:

Helen Gallagher made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting. George Buck seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence: Cynthia Stevens reviewed the monthly financial summary. She is following up with George Benson about submitting his bill for \$500.

Public Comment:

Old Business:

- Town Park boat rack
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that a number of residents have expressed interest in having a boat rack at the Town Park.
 - A resident has pulled his/her rowboat up on to shore which causes concern for BPAC members.
 - Boats will kill the grass which was specifically planted for erosion control.
 - If one boat is left there, it could set a precedent for others.
 - The consensus of the group was for Cynthia Stevens to speak at the upcoming Friends of Ball Pond annual meeting and suggest that anyone interested in a boat rack contact the Department of Parks and Recreation and ask to be put on the agenda for their next meeting. They can then make a formal request for the boat rack to be returned to the Ball Pond Town Park. The Department of Parks and Recreation has responsibility for that property and therefore it is appropriate for them to make the decision about the boat rack and to determine how its use should be managed.
 - Helen Gallagher suggested that, if the boat rack is not put back on the property, signs be put up warning people not to leave their boats there.
 - George Buck believes that Public Works should be called to remove the boat that is currently pulled up on the grass.
- Weed update
 - Visual inspection from the shore suggests that weeds are not too much of a problem yet; no one present had been out on the lake recently.
 - Cynthia Stevens will make sure that Bruce Lockhart will be available this year for private residents – as well as BPAC – to hire him.

New Business:

- Research on zebra mussels
 - Cynthia Stevens attended a seminar at WCSU on April 26th. Kevin Kelly, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, spoke on "Alternative Control Strategy for Zebra Mussels Using Carbon Dioxide".
 - The use of CO₂ to contain zebra mussels seems appropriate for narrow areas.
 - One possible negative may be the impact on other mussels.
 - George Buck wondered why this strategy would not adversely affect other species (plants or fish).
 - Ideally, boats should be inspected prior to going into Ball Pond, but staffing that is impractical.
 - Cynthia Stevens will speak about the zebra mussel threat at the Friends of Ball Pond annual meeting and encourage vigilance on the part of residents and with any community events held on the lake.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Helen Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.; George Buck seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary