

Ball Pond Advisory Committee
MINUTES – Special Meeting
August 15, 2013
7:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, August 15, 2013 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. George Buck, Terry Lent, and Mark Spellman were also in attendance. Helen Gallagher was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2013 regular meeting as corrected; George Buck seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Peter Viola has resigned from the Ball Pond Advisory Committee for personal reasons. All in attendance expressed appreciation for Peter Viola's service and will miss his contributions to the Committee.
- Helen Gallagher will submit a letter of intent to the First Selectman to continue her service on the Ball Pond Advisory Committee.
- Cynthia Stevens, George Buck, Terry Lent, and Mark Spellmann already submitted their letters, were reappointed by the selectmen and have been sworn in to serve on the Ball Pond Advisory Committee for two years.
- Cynthia Stevens opened a P.O. for the removal of pink water lilies.
- Water testing was paid for out of last year's (FY2012-13) budget.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- 16 Lake Drive
 - Terry Lent reported that some trees have been removed. The Ball Pond Advisory Committee will continue to watch what is going on on this property related to possible environmental impact.
- Carp and weed update
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that the limnologist is no longer required to write a report for the State, so he just reports the raw data. George Buck would like us to have all of the data from 1997. Cynthia Stevens will ask the Health Department staff if those data are available. Mark Spellmann offered to use any available data to chart how the weeds have changed over time.
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that the results of the weed study conducted on July 30, 2013 showed no "red flags". There is some calcium but not enough to support a zebra mussel colony, according to Tim Simpkins.
 - Cynthia Stevens raised the question of whether there is a need for a weed dive in June as well as July (July is the benchmark; adding June would give a more accurate picture of the weeds and whether or not we need more carp).
 - George Buck believes Ball Pond should be re-stocked in the spring of 2014, but clear evidence of need will have to be provided to the State. Cynthia Stevens will be in contact with

Mindy Barnett from the State DEEP Inland Fisheries Division. She participated in the dive on July 30.

- Since two weed dives per year will be more costly because we would need the diver for an additional day, George Buck suggested an alternative. He believes that even a visual inspection in June (including photographs) with Tim Simpkins and Mindy Barnett would be helpful to compare with July's results.
- Discussion ensued about how much carp is needed per vegetated acre since the Santee Cooper Lakes in South Carolina stock 25 to the vegetated acre to combat hydrilla. George Buck and Cynthia Stevens believe the coontail is more dense than milfoil and may require more fish per vegetated acre. That is an important value to determine. George Buck will follow up.

New Business:

- Pink water lilies
 - Cynthia Stevens saw some earlier in the summer; she reviewed where she has seen them.
 - New England Aquatic Services (previously known as Water's Edge) has been contracted to remove pink water lilies. BPAC has not been billed yet, so Cynthia Stevens is unsure if the work has been done. She is going to follow up.
 - George Buck suggested that coontail be removed from the really unsightly, open, common areas using the pontoon boat and a rake (i.e. in south end). Discussion ensued about cost. The consensus was that it would be worth it. Cynthia Stevens will talk to Matt from New England Aquatic Services to request an estimate when she contacts him about the current work.
- 150 Ball Pond Road
 - The property is owned by Michael Raso.
 - This property is on the agenda for the Conservation-Inlands/Wetlands meeting next Tuesday August 20, 2013. BPAC members are encouraged to attend.
 - Cynthia Stevens expressed concern over the proposed disturbance to the shoreline.
 - Cynthia Stevens reviewed the drawings for the proposed project which includes two docks, two new patios, a sea wall and four-foot path next to it, a 20' deck, and a 55' beach.
 - A major concern for Cynthia Stevens is the number of projects and whether or not they will be completed. Perhaps conditional approval (i.e., seawall first) would be useful.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.; Mark Spellmann seconded the motion.
 - Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary