

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

**MINUTES**

October 10, 2013

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, October 10, 2013 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Helen Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:18. George Buck, Terry Lent, and Mark Spellman were also in attendance. Cynthia Stevens was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2013 regular meeting. Mark Spellmann seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence:

- Helen Gallagher reviewed the Monthly Department Summary from the Finance Department
  - \$700 was paid to diver Michael Coleman for the annual survey of weeds
  - \$500 was paid to Benson Environmental for collecting data from the weed survey
- Gary Mummert has asked the Selectmen to be a member of the BPAC; Cynthia Stevens agreed and Mr. Mummert is awaiting approval by the BOS.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- Dead trees on lake
  - Each member weighed in with an opinion
    - Terry Lent thinks they're natural and acceptable.
    - George Buck sees the trees adding organic matter to the lake as a negative; he sees how they provide habitat for animals as a positive. He suggests waiting until winter. When the ice solidifies, the trees can be cut above water line.
    - Helen Gallagher has a dead willow branch – enjoys the habitat that it creates.
    - Mark Spellmann believes there are many trees in the lake – especially in the north end; he doesn't believe we have the resources to remove them.
    - Terry Lent read an email from Cynthia Stevens. She supports removing the trees because they add nutrients to the lake, make it boggy, and are unsightly (she has had a complaint). Cynthia Stevens spoke with someone in Public Works who said they would not be willing to walk on ice to cut the trees. She proposed asking the Friends of Ball Pond to pay for someone to remove the trees.
  - The opinion of the members present was that this is really an issue of personal choice and that it can be considered again by the Committee in the future if there are enough complaints from residents.

- Carp
  - Cynthia Stevens is still awaiting notification of a decision from the State on the data that BPAC submitted.
  - Discussion ensued about how many carp should be requested. Mark Spellmann offered to update his “carpulator” calculations based on the discussion.
- Pink water lilies
  - There was nothing new to report. The consensus of the group was to wait until the spring to worry about removing the pink water lilies if the work has not been done to date.

New Business:

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- Helen Gallagher entertained a motion to table this item to the November 14, 2013 meeting. Mark Spellmann made the said motion. Terry Lent seconded the motion.  
Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.; Mark Spellmann seconded the motion.
  - Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander  
Recording Secretary