

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

April 9, 2015

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, April 9, 2015 in the Town Hall conference room.

Chairman Cynthia Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Helen Gallagher, Terry Lent, Gary Mummert, Mark Spellmann, and Dave Winslow were also in attendance. George Buck was not in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Gary Mummert made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2015 regular meeting. Terry Lent seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence: Cynthia Stevens reviewed the monthly financial statement. There are a number of Purchase Orders open. There is \$2028.35 remaining in the budget.

A resident called Cynthia Stevens in search of a space for his thirteen year old son to store his boat. He is willing to pay to rent space. Discussion ensued. One person present may be interested. She will contact the interested resident.

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

- Carp study
 - Cynthia Stevens reported that the State transferred \$9,125 to New Fairfield for the Carp Study. There is a separate account which already contains the required matching funds from Friends of Ball Pond.
 - Mark June-Wells is eager to prepare the analysis of data but needs George Benson's input. Cynthia will work with Mark on the draft. Mark Spellmann, George Benson, Tim Simpkins, George Buck and Cynthia Stevens are on the review committee, but the draft will be sent to all BPAC members.
- Ball Pond outlet
 - Gary Mummert reported that he examined the outlet. The water was flowing fast. He left the grate out of its slide for about three hours. When he returned, the water level was still high and nothing was blocking the water flow. Therefore, it appears that the grate does not have anything to do with water level of the pond.
 - Ice on either side of the tube under Ball Pond Road East blocks the water flow (the tube is only about 2 feet in diameter)
 - The concrete passageway that the grate sits in is also narrow (about 3'x 3')
 - A resident is concerned that flooding on his property is caused by the blocked/clogged grate; this has been a long-standing issue
 - After receiving a complaint from the said resident, Public Works staff cut the lock off of the grate. Gary Mummert purchased a new lock which is now on the grate; Public Works will be given a key
 - Discussion ensued about whether or not individual residents should be given a key

- The general consensus is that it is not a good idea (safety concerns)
- Continuing to clean the grate is probably a good idea; it shows a good faith effort to help the concerned resident to solve his flooding problem
 - discussion about whether or not Public Works should be responsible for it
- Mark Spellmann made a motion that the grate should never be removed. Terry Lent seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of making that recommendation. The group agreed to table this discussion until May after getting more information
- Carp stocking
 - Everything is set for the purchase (\$4.75/carp) and delivery of 150 carp. The liberation permit from the State is still needed. Delivery will also be contingent on the temperature of the water.
- Erosion control
 - Cynthia Stevens gave all present a copy of Jim Mellett's report, "Sedimentological Survey of Delta at North End of Ball Pond, New Fairfield, CT" (2009) https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B274oX1_FzO_X1R2akgzSTdxdlU&usp=drive_web in the file bpac_2_10_09_minutes_attachment.pdf. This was for reference in case the Committee decides to address the issues in the South End.
 - Public Works Director Bobby Rzasa told Cynthia Stevens that they will make clearing the roads around Ball Pond a top priority in order to keep the sediment out of the lake.
 - There are some key areas that have serious problems with the sedimentation of sand after this severe winter (e.g., detention basins near the boat launch, the bottom of Satterlee, the bottom of Hudson)
 - It is questionable whether or not the storm drains are adequate.
 - Mark Spellmann spoke with Rourk Traynor of Living Assets (a landscape design and property care company)
 - Mr. Traynor offered some ideas about possible plantings for the north end to help with erosion
 - He also indicated that dredging in the south end and then selling the dredged material would be an option. The first step would be determining the composition of the dredged material. Mark Spellmann will follow up with Mr. Traynor.

New Business: none

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room. Dave Winslow indicated that he would not be available for that meeting but that he would prepare a statement about his view of the grate issue to be read at the meeting.
- Terry Lent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.; Mark Spellmann seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene Anderson-Alexander
Recording Secretary