

Ball Pond Advisory Committee

MINUTES

August 13, 2015

7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, August 13, 2015 in the Town Hall conference room.

Gary Mummert called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Helen Gallagher, Terry Lent, and Dave Winslow were in attendance. George Buck and Mark Spellmann were not in attendance. Cynthia Stevens joined the meeting via cellphone.

Approval of Minutes:

Terry Lent made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2015 regular meeting. Helen Gallagher seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

General Correspondence: none

Public Comment: none

Old Business:

- Weed removal update
 - Matt Vogt (New England Aquatic Services) has submitted an invoice for \$3311. This covered 11 hours of work.
 - The work involved the removal of clusters of pink water lilies and the digging of three paths through the weeds as a way of encouraging the carp to eat more aggressively.
 - Gary Mummert showed a map of areas that were treated.
- Discussion of weed/invasive observations for 2015
 - The opinion of the group is that the overall condition of the lake is good everywhere although it should be noted that traces of Eurasian milfoil were spotted in front of Cynthia Stevens's property.
- Grate update
 - It has been determined by the Town's attorney that the cleaning of the grate should be the responsibility of the Town of New Fairfield.
 - All members are asked to keep an eye on the grate and, if it needs attention, to please call Cynthia Stevens who will contact the Department of Public works. If Cynthia Stevens is not available, please contact George Buck.
- Report on weed dive, if available
 - No report available
- Carp study status
 - A memo to Cynthia Stevens from Mark June-Wells of Aquatic Ecosystem Research was read by all. Several significant issues with the data being studied will necessitate further discussion by the committee. A meeting with all invested parties is being scheduled for the end of August.
- Town park issues
 - Some stones have been removed from the stone wall and repairs are needed. A Ball Pond resident has been engaged to do the job. Mark Spellmann will provide details of the

agreement at the next meeting. Dave Winslow suggested that some of the damage may be done when people launch their kayaks off the wall.

- Gary Mummert raised the question of placing a garbage pail with plastic liners at the Town Park because people are leaving litter there.
 - Discussion ensued about the possibility of chaining it to the fence and also about asking Friends of Ball Pond to assume responsibility for removal of the garbage on a regular basis.
 - Discussion to be continued at the next meeting.
- Spraying of weed killer along Route 39
 - This continues to be done randomly by the State with extra attention being given to the weeds along the guard rails.
 - Gary Mummert has called the State on several occasions to request that spraying not be done on his property but this year it was done and his milkweed was killed.
 - Gary Mummert suggested that we should be concerned about the use of such strong chemicals so close to the lake.
 - Additional discussion on how to establish a dialogue with the proper people in the State will be the subject for a future meeting.

New Business: none

Other:

- Dave Winslow questioned if the Ball Pond water is tested regularly for the presence of toxic algae.
 - It is done so as part of our water quality testing.

Adjournment:

- The next regular meeting of the Ball Pond Advisory Committee will be on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.
- Dave Winslow made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50; Terry Lent seconded the motion.
Vote:4-0-0 (Motion Approved)

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen D. Gallagher
Substitute Recording Secretary